

At resumed Nakoura negotiations— Lebanese adopt tough stance but talks to continue Monday

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter
NAKOURA. — Israel-Lebanon military talks resumed here yesterday amid talk of "progress" despite new demands raised by the Lebanese which were dismissed out of hand by the Israeli delegation.

The demands included an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon and \$10 billion as war reparations.

Both sides are to return to the conference table on Monday. The Lebanese demands were seen as an opening bargaining position and an effort to justify Lebanon's return to the talks after a week of wrangling over Israel's arrest of four senior Shi'ite Muslim Amal militiamen in South Lebanon.

In what was seen as a concession, Israel released three of the men on Wednesday to persuade the Lebanese to resume the talks which were suspended by Beirut after just one session.

According to an Israeli military source, interrogation of the fourth man, Mahmoud Fakih, head of the Shi'ite Amal movement in Sidon, was almost completed.

Security in and around the UN compound was stepped up yesterday, and UN officers said anti-Israel

terrorists had threatened to use rockets or a car-bomb to disrupt the session.

The officers, who spoke on condition they were not named, did not identify the terrorists, but any such threats probably came from the Shi'ite terrorists who are waging an almost daily campaign of attacks on Israel's troops.

The two delegations shook hands and went into separate rooms for private consultations before resuming the talks. The Lebanese contingent arrived wearing camouflage fatigues which made them look like battle-ready warriors—in contrast to the plain khaki shades of the Israeli and UN officers.

At the talks, the Lebanese surprised their Israeli counterparts with their six-page document which included strong denunciations of Israel's occupation army and accusations that Israel had "strangled liberty and freedom of expression" in South Lebanon.

As to the \$10b. demand for war reparations, the statement read by Brig. Gen. Mohammed Hajj, offered this explanation: "Lebanese towns and villages were devastated and destroyed from south to north, passing through the capital of Beirut, resulting in dam-

ages estimated at a value ranging between \$8b. and \$10b. which should be indemnified by the Israeli side, and inflicted casualties exceeding 1,000 dead and 1,000 wounded among the Lebanese."

The Lebanese also demanded the replacement of the Israeli forces by up to 10,000 Lebanese Army personnel backed up by Unifil; the non-recognition of the Israeli-sponsored South Lebanese Army—which Israel wants included in the security arrangements—the closure of prison camps and an end to Israeli goods entering the Lebanese market which they claimed was demolishing the economy.

These demands were to be carried out under the 1949 armistice agreement which Israel has long declared invalid.

Tat-Aluf Amos Gilboa, head of the Israeli delegation made it clear that Israel recognized Lebanon's full sovereignty over every inch of its territory. He also stressed that the sole basis for the talks were the UN secretary-general's invitation and not the armistice agreement, to discuss security arrangements in the south and the Israeli withdrawal.

Moreover, the military talks were aimed at discussing issues of military

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Sharon trial digs into 1953 raid

By WALTER RUBY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
NEW YORK. — The 1953 Kibya raid, in which an elite intelligence unit led by Ariel Sharon caused the deaths of 69 Arabs in a retaliatory raid on a Jordanian village, became the focus of the Sharon-Time magazine libel trial yesterday, with Sharon telling the jury that he and his men made their "best effort" to avoid civilian casualties.

After Sharon defended his role in the Kibya raid, Sharon's lawyer Milton Gould read the jury an article on the raid from the October 26, 1953 edition of Time. The article differed radically from Sharon's account, arguing that "the Israelis moved in and shot down every man, woman, and child, and then turned to the Jews."

Judge Abraham Sofaer admonished Gould for having read the Time piece to the jury, pointing out that he ruled that the issue of whether Time has an anti-Israel or anti-Jewish bias will not be an issue in this trial. Rather, the trial is to focus on the narrower issue of whether Time libelled Sharon in its reporting on the massacre in the Kibya and Sabilla camps.

The Kibya raid was launched in reprisal for numerous attacks by infiltrators and Jordanian troops on

Israeli civilians and soldiers.

Sharon's defence of his actions at Kibya was the high point of several hours of rambling testimony, in which he told the story of his life from his childhood in Kfar Malal, through his military career up to his appointment as Defence Minister by Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Replying to questions from Gould about his career in the military, Sharon frequently launched into lengthy digressions, such as Israel's security situation in the 1950s and the need for a two-party system in Israel. This led Gould to gently admonish him several times: "General, I'll have to ask you to listen to my questions carefully."

After several such digressions, Judge Sofaer evoked laughter by informing Sharon that his testimony had reached the point where, "you just finished grade school in the village."

Sharon told the court that Israel has always had a policy of "making a tremendous effort to avoid civilian casualties. We often paid with our blood to implement that policy," he said.

In the case of Kibya, Sharon said that he and the 100 men under his command in the special intelligence unit 101 "did everything possible" to check every house they were dynam-

iting to make sure there were no people inside before they set off the charges. In two instances they saved children by removing them from the houses.

Sharon said, "Am I saying that we could check every hole and cellar? No, there was not time, and in fact, we endangered ourselves by staying several hours longer than we should have. I am saying that we made our best effort."

Sharon said that only after returning to Israel did he hear that 69 people had been killed inside buildings destroyed by the Israelis.

Sharon's account differed greatly from the article in Time, which described "Israeli artillery... and 600 men... encircling the village... which, Time reported, "shuddered under shellbursts for two and a half hours."

After Gould finished reading the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)



A courtroom artist's drawing showing the proceedings in New York yesterday at Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon's libel suit against Time magazine. Sharon is shown in the foreground. At the centre is Time's chief counsel, Thomas Barr, and behind him on the left is Judge Abraham Sofaer.

(UPI telephoto)

Guidelines set for contracts on purchase of apartments

By ROY ISACOWITZ
and AARON SITTNER

TEL AVIV. — Purchase contracts for goods signed before November 2 and stipulating a set rate of monthly payments will be exempted from the prices and wages freeze, it was decided last night. But payments on purchase contracts that are drawn up during the freeze will be frozen for the duration. Travel tax will be frozen as of November 2 at IS39,820.

Many of the legal and contractual uncertainties surrounding the freeze were cleared up during last night's session here of the tri-lateral freeze follow-up committee. The decisions will be officially announced this morning, after they have been previously worded by legal experts representing the government, the Histadrut and the manufacturers.

The government team was headed by Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i; Secretary General Yisrael Kessar led the Histadrut delegation; while Eli Hurwitz, Manufacturers' Association president represented the manufacturers.

The principle adopted in solving the many contractual problems connected with the freeze was that payment for goods in stock to be delivered during the freeze would be frozen. Payment for goods to be acquired after the expiry of the freeze will remain as stipulated in the

contract, if it was drawn up before the freeze. Thus, a purchase contract for an apartment that will be ready for occupation after the freeze will not be frozen. Payments for an apartment that is paid for and occupied during the freeze will be frozen.

Payment for regular services according to a contract drawn up before the freeze will be frozen. For example, payment for weekly ballet lessons at £10 per lesson according to a contract predating the freeze will be frozen at the IS527 per dollar rate. Apartment rentals will be frozen, as will be retainers. A contract for a one time event (such as a wedding reception) falling during the freeze is frozen, even if the contract was signed before the freeze.

Regarding insurance policies, it was decided that only compulsory vehicle insurance will be frozen.

Workers whose salaries are linked to the dollar or the consumer price index will have them unlinked for the duration of the freeze and will receive the cost of living increment in compensation.

The Histadrut failed to obtain agreements on the tax which it is demanding be levied on the self-employed. Moda'i promised to present a detailed proposal on the matter by early next week. Before the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Consumer price index leaps by 24.3% C-o-L payment on Nov. salaries fixed at 13 p.c.

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter
Salaried workers will receive a rise of 13 per cent on this month's pay to compensate them partially for the 24.3 per cent increase in the consumer price index last month.

While October's inflation was the highest ever registered here in one month, the Treasury stressed that the CPI figures reflected price increases that took place before the package deal on wages and prices came into effect. They also warned that next month's inflation will be high, since it will again be affected by late October price rises. Prices of a long list of goods and services were frozen, under the package deal, at their level on November 2.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i yesterday forecast that the CPI for

December would begin to show the effects of the package deal and would be about half the October figure. He said he hoped that November's inflation might show some small drop.

The October figure, the minister said, demonstrated better than anything else how urgent had been the need for the package deal.

Further steps would be needed, Moda'i said. These would come either towards the end of the package deal's three-month term, or immediately afterwards, he said.

October's increase in retail prices brought the CPI to 8672.6 points on a 1980-100 baseline. According to the Central Bureau of Statistics, an average urban family needs about IS319,000 to buy the same basket of goods and services that it purchased with some IS3,680 during 1980.

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Twice-monthly inflation data planned

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter
December and January will probably see the Central Bureau of Statistics supplying a twice-monthly indication of the rise in the consumer price index. The move is in response to requests by the government and the Bank of Israel, the bureau said yesterday.

The bureau, however, was cautious in assessing its ability to meet the demand and said that the fortnightly announcement would not supplant the monthly CPI report, which will be given as usual on the 15th of the month.

The fortnightly tally will be made on the basis of only 60 per cent of the items included in the monthly CPI calculations, and will be a "price indication" only. The remaining 40 per cent of items monitored each month do not permit frequent calculations, the bureau said. Food, fruit and vegetables, footwear and clothing are among the articles that will be included in the "price indication."

The first such "price indication"

should be available in the third week of December, when the bureau will seek to assess what price increases took place in the first two weeks of the month.

Soaring prices have so burdened the bureau's computers that from January the CBS plans to divide its indices by 10 to get rid of one zero.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i on Sunday will seek cabinet approval for a \$550 million budget cut. Following the decision of yesterday's Ministerial Economic Committee decision, Moda'i will present only the framework of the cuts, without going into details. These will be worked out later in talks between individual ministers and a committee comprising Moda'i, Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi, and Ministers-without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman and Moshe Arens.

Moda'i opposed this procedure and wanted details worked out on Sunday. The Treasury will now be forced to seek other ministries' approval for cuts that reportedly involve dismissing thousands of public sector employees.

Hussein set for Cairo visit to seal diplomatic ties

AMMAN (AP). — King Hussein said yesterday that at the end of this month or the beginning of December he expects to make a state visit to Cairo to cap his country's revival of diplomatic ties with Egypt.

The Jordanian king also renewed his criticism of American policy on the Middle East as too influenced by Israel, but added he would continue to deal with the U.S. and "we shall change the picture in time."

Hussein's comments were made in an interview with the Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram to be published to-

day.

He also expressed hope for the meeting scheduled in Amman next week by the Palestine National Council adding that the Palestinians should not be controlled by any Arab country — an apparent reference to Syria.

Hussein said his problems with Syria were "not personal, but differences based on basic issues such as Syrian interference in Lebanon, the Palestinian problem and... support to Iran against Iraq in the present war."

Peres deflates talk of massive firings

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Prime Minister Shimon Peres yesterday dismissed reports that 15,000 civil servants will be sacked, declaring that exactly 1,884 civil servants will be retired or dismissed as part of a proposal being worked out in the Civil Service Commission.

Peres was speaking at the Labour Party's bureau which was attended by most of the party's ministers, Knesset Members and other elected representatives. It was the first meeting convened by the new secretary-general, Uzi Baram.

Peres opened the discussion, which concentrated mainly on the economic situation, noting that the

cost-of-living index published yesterday was lower than expected. The index does not reflect the results of the package deal and next month's index is expected to be much lower, he said.

The premier labelled reports of the numbers of civil servants to be dismissed as "inaccurate" and said only 1,884 will be discharged.

Many of the speakers warned of imminent unemployment and its results.

Peres said that there is no intention of creating unemployment in order to heal the economy.

Baram said he had invited Mapam leaders to meet with him to discuss Labour-Mapam cooperation in the Histadrut and municipalities.

Mitterrand and Gaddafi meet amid flap over troops in Chad

ELOUNDA, Crete (Reuters). — Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi said yesterday he had reached agreement in principle about Chad with French President Francois Mitterrand that would "open a new page" in French-Libyan relations.

"I can confirm that we are opening a new page," the Libyan leader told newsmen after more than five hours of talks with Mitterrand and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

Papandreu said Gaddafi and Mitterrand had agreed that in future there should not be a single French or Libyan soldier in Chad.

Papandreu said France has also recognized the right of Libya to defend itself in the event of any

intervention in Chad by an outside power.

The Libyan leader said he had accepted an invitation to visit France and he hoped Mitterrand would come to Libya.

Mitterrand did not speak to the press before leaving for Paris, but French officials said he would make a statement to French television and radio on his return.

The Chad government and the U.S. have both accused Libya of reneging on its agreement with France, made in September, under which the two countries were to withdraw troops which have been backing opposite sides in Chad's prolonged civil war. Last week France and Libya said the withdrawal had been completed.

French intelligence officials have admitted there are still about 1,000 Libyan troops in northern Chad, Le Monde reported yesterday.

On Wednesday, the U.S. State Department said satellite photos showed that "substantial Libyan forces" remained in Chad and that the French had been provided with those photos. Le Monde said the U.S. statement was "profoundly embarrassing to French authorities."

Foreign-policy analysts in Paris pointed to the possibility of a certain disarray in France's foreign-policy establishment. Foreign Minister

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Clear to partly cloudy.
Outlook for Sabbath: Partly cloudy.

	Yesterday's	Today's	Max
Jerusalem	13-20	15-21	21
Golan	10-19	10-20	20
Nahariya	10-19	10-20	20
Safed	10-17	10-19	19
Haifa Port	15-23	15-23	23
Tiberias	15-23	15-23	23
Nazareth	15-23	15-23	23
Afula	15-23	15-23	23
Shomron	15-23	15-23	23
Tel Aviv	15-23	15-23	23
B-C Airport	15-23	15-23	23
Jericho	15-23	15-23	23
Gaza	15-23	15-23	23
Beersheba	15-23	15-23	23
Eilat	15-23	15-23	23

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Dr. Zvi Fein, 41, has been appointed chairman of the Association for the Planning and Development of Services for the Elderly in Israel.

A meeting of the Press Council plenum will be held at Beit Sokolow in Tel Aviv at 10:30 a.m. today.

Ms. Sheva Weiss will speak on the "National Unity Government" at the Haifa Engineers Club at 1 p.m. today. Table reservations by phone: 538268.

In Memoriam

A memorial service was held yesterday at the grave of Israel's first president, Chaim Weizmann, at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot 32 years after his death. Among those present were President Chaim Herzog, Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel, his predecessor Menachem Savidor, the dean of the diplomatic corps U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis, IDF and police officers, MK Ezer Weizman and his wife Reuma and members of the Weizmann family. Ezer recited kaddish for the first president who was his uncle.

Hitler diaries forger released without bail

HAMBURG, West Germany (AP). - Confessed Hitler diaries forger Konrad Kujau, standing trial on fraud charges, was freed yesterday after 18 months in jail, court officials said.

Prosecutors immediately appealed the decision to release the 46-year-old Nazi-regalia dealer. A ruling is expected within a few days, a court spokesman said.

No bail was required. Kujau had been in investigative custody since surrendering to authorities May 14, 1983, in connection with the \$3.7 million literary hoax, the largest on record. But since Kujau is well known and all witnesses directly concerning his case have already testified, "the court determined that the risk of Kujau fleeing, tampering with evidence or attempting to influence witnesses was much lower now," the spokesman said.

STRIKE. - Thousands of Bolivian miners, teachers and office workers began an indefinite national strike on Wednesday to demand wage increases, price controls and guaranteed supplies of basic food items. The strike came together with opposition demands for early general elections as inflation nears 1,000 per cent.

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HOME NEWS

Prices for apartments fall for buyers who have dollars

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter
Maybe the only good news emerging from the publication of the inflation figures for October was that holders of dollars or dollar-linked assets, such as Patam accounts, are able to find cheaper flats on the market.

A survey of apartment prices conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics showed that during the third quarter of the year the average price of flats was some 52 per cent higher than for the previous quarter, while in the same period the dollar went up by some 61.8 per cent against the shekel.

This means that the price of flats in dollar terms was down by 6 per cent in the third quarter. Flats were stable, however, in shekel terms. This is shown by the fact that during the third quarter the consumer price index rose by 51.5 per cent, as compared with 52 per cent for housing prices.

Comparing the average price of flats during July-September of this

year with the same period last year, it emerges that a 13 per cent drop in the dollar value of flats took place. The dollar went up by 460 per cent, and flats by 386 per cent.

Apparently the drop in the average price of flats has been caused not only by a drop in demand, but also by a slowdown in the increase of costs.

Thus, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics, the price index of inputs in residential building rose by 17.1 per cent in October, as compared with a 24.3 per cent increase in the CPI. The index rose to 573.6 points on an October 1983=100 baseline.

The price of wholesale industrial output did not show any evidence of a "price increase spree" in October. The wholesale price index rose by 23.5 per cent, less than the rise in the CPI.

Prior to the publication of the price index, several consumer protection bodies had charged that some industries had increased their prices in October far beyond the average.

Shamir attack angers Labour

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The Labour Party will not put up for long with attacks from Herut, Secretary-General Uzi Baram warned yesterday in the wake of criticism from Vice-Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

"Even though the critical situation in Israel today is the result of the Likud's government, we do not speak of it - making a point of emphasizing the unifying factors rather than the separating ones," Baram said.

However, if the anti-Labour statements continue on Herut's part, the party will have to react and this will cause difficulties for the government, he added.

Baram claimed Shamir's statements on Wednesday were uttered for internal party purposes and were part of the leadership struggle within Herut.

"We're sorry that Shamir chose this tone. His words derive from internal party needs, and the leadership struggle in Herut is hindering that party's normal functioning," he said.

Referring to Shamir's statement that Herut was not "favourably surprised by its Labour colleagues in government," Baram said Labour was not surprised at all, one way or another by its Herut colleagues. "We knew we were getting into a

difficult government, and we are not trying to build ourselves on the inner friction in the Likud," he said.

Meanwhile, an Industry and Trade Ministry spokesman denied that Minister Ariel Sharon in an address in New York this week, had attacked Prime Minister Shimon Peres for allegedly causing "much harm to Israel's image by describing the country's economy as being in worse shape than it is."

The spokesman said: "Contrary to the report on Israel Radio, Minister Sharon did not mention the prime minister in his speech before the Herut-Hazohar convention in New York so he obviously could not have criticized him for misrepresenting the situation of the country's economy."

Commenting on Sharon's reported criticism, Baram said that Peres simply presented objective data.

Peres has no intention of painting a black picture but of encouraging investments in Israel. "Did Peres invent the incredible inflation figures, which statesmen from abroad find incredible?" he added.

Baram noted that Sharon was trying to portray a more favourable situation, indicating that Peres had tried to stress the Likud's failures in his dire descriptions. "But the point is not who is to blame for the situation but how to deal with it," he said.

Accused dissident's brother held by KGB

Mikhail Kholmynsky, brother of Alexander Kholmynsky, an activist awaiting trial in Tallin, Estonia, on charges of "hooliganism," has been arrested and taken for interrogation to the KGB offices, the Council for Soviet Jewry said yesterday.

Alexander Kholmynsky, 34, an electronics engineer who taught Hebrew in Moscow, was refused permission to emigrate for Israel in 1978. He has been on hunger strike while awaiting trial and has refused a food parcel sent him by his mother.

Freeze hits Nahal

TEL AVIV. - Budgetary constraints have forced the Nahal Corps (Fighting Pioneer Youth) to shelve plans to establish new settlements and to use less ammunition in training, military correspondents were told yesterday.

The press conference was addressed by Nahal commander Tat-Aluf Yoram Gilboa and the outgoing head of the Nahal and youth department in the Defence Ministry, Levy Mann.

Mann said Nahal had planned to establish military settlements in the Arava near Shizafon, at Pithat Shalom near Beerotayim and in the Jordan Valley, but these plans have been frozen.

Taxi drivers decide to stay off roads Sunday

The Israel Taxi Owners Association has decided to keep their vehicles off the roads on Sunday, starting at 6 a.m. in protest against the Transport Ministry's decision to cancel an already approved fare increase.

The increase was approved on November 2, but three days later it was retracted because of the price freeze, the association spokesman said. The aborted increase came to 23 per cent.

The spokesman also said taxi drivers will demonstrate in front of the Prime Minister's Office, the Treasury and the Transport Ministry on Sunday. (Itim)

Two MKs say West Bankers should attend PNC in Amman

By DAVID BERNSTEIN
Post Middle East Affairs Reporter and agencies

MKs Matti Peled and Muhammad Mi'ari of the Progressive List for Peace said yesterday that by failing to allow West Bankers to attend next week's Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Amman, Israel may be playing into the hands of the hardline rejectionists in the PLO.

Peled sent a telegram to Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, saying this policy is preventing "the vast majority of the population in the territories from expressing their support for the moderate line represented by Arafat" and aiding "the small minority opposed to a political solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Mi'ari also sent a telegram to Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel, calling for an urgent Knesset debate on the subject.

It is widely believed that most West Bankers are solidly behind PLO leader Yasser Arafat, and their presence in Amman next Thursday could affect his chances of gaining a two-thirds majority of the 384-member PNC and in this way achieve the quorum his Damascus-based hardliners are trying to prevent.

Arafat yesterday remained determined to go ahead with the meeting - despite indications that the leaders of the two largest PLO factions after his own Fatah would not be going to Amman.

Hawatmeb, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), indicated yesterday that they would not be going.

Hawatmeb's position has been apparent for some time, while Hawatmeb until yesterday appeared to be hesitating.

But in an interview published in the Jordanian daily *a-Ra'i*, Hawatmeb was quoted as saying that his organization opposes "any divisive council that is not called for... by the majority."

Arafat, however, appeared to remain confident that even without the DFLP, the DFLP or the West Bank delegates, he would be able to get together a quorum.

And a Palestinian source close to Arafat, who asked to remain unidentified, was quoted as saying in agency reports from Amman yesterday that the PNC would convene in Amman next Thursday as Arafat planned.

In Damascus, PNC President Khaled Fahoum was quoted as saying that without his signature - which he refused to provide - Arafat's invitation to delegates to attend the meeting are invalid. He also predicted that some 150 PNC members would fail to attend, leaving Arafat short of his quorum.

Analysts believe that if the meeting goes ahead, the PLO will finally split into two separate organizations - one congruent with Arafat's own Fatah organization and headed by the PLO leader, and the other made up of the other groups constituting the present PLO and headed by one of Arafat's Damascus-based rivals.

Raphael Kotlowitz dies at 67

Raphael Kotlowitz, former chairman of the Aliya Department of the Jewish Agency and of the World Zionist Organization, died in Tel Aviv yesterday after a long illness. He was 67.

Kotlowitz was born in Russia in 1917. In 1925 he moved with his parents to South Africa. During the many years he spent there he was a leader in the Betar youth movement and in the Revisionist Zionist party. Kotlowitz, a lawyer by profession, received a law degree at the University of Cape Town in 1941.

After World War II Kotlowitz was sent by the Irgun Zvai Leumi to perform missions in France and England. He helped Ya'acov Meridor and five other IZL leaders escape from a British detention camp in Kenya. He came to Israel in 1948.

Kotlowitz served as a Tel Aviv municipal councillor from 1965 to 1969, leading the city's Gahal opposition. He represented Herut Hazohar and the Revisionist movement in the U.S., South Africa, Canada and France. He was elected chairman of Herut Hazohar in 1971, and resigned when he was given the aliya portfolio at the Zionist Congress of January, 1978.

Kotlowitz strongly opposed the attempts of David Levy, the absorption minister at the time, to establish a joint Jewish Agency-government



immigration authority in the early 1970s. After disputes with Diaspora members of the Jewish Agency's board of governors Kotlowitz lost the Aliya Department chairmanship in 1983. He was succeeded by Herut appointee Haim Aharon last February.

Kotlowitz is survived by his daughter Edna and two grandchildren. The public can pay last respects at Metzudat Ze'ev in Tel Aviv from 11 a.m.-12 noon today. The funeral procession will then leave for the Kiryat Shaul cemetery. (A.Z.)

TV newscast blacked out by dispute

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel Television's engineering works committee last night refused to broadcast the Mabat news programme in protest against the refusal by Mabat head Michael Karpin to work with a particular technician.

Karpin refused to accept the technician even though he was scheduled to work last night. Two stand-by

technicians, who were called in as replacements, said they were ill and could not fill in.

The issue was taken up by the engineering works committee, which decided not to broadcast the programme. The Israel Broadcasting Authority spokeswoman was confident last night the matter would be settled today and newscasts would resume tonight.

LIBEL TRIAL

(Continued from Page One)
1953 Time account. Sharon shouted from the witness box: "If I could have tried Time then for this article, I would not be here today, and we would not have heard (a compilation by Time lawyer Thomas Barr of statements by journalists and politicians attacking Sharon) made yesterday."

Judge Sofaer accused Gould of "betraying" his trust by introducing the 1953 Time article as evidence, and warned him not to attempt to introduce other "unrelated evidence" for the duration of the trial.

Sharon will continue his testimony when the trial resumes on Monday.

Mark Segal adds:
A private fund drive is under way in New York City to defray Sharon's legal costs. This was learned from sources in the New York Jewish community, where it was reported that a number of prominent businessmen have been approached during the past few days with a request to donate substantial sums. One of the fundraisers is Elias Hirschberg of the Baer-Stern brokerage firm on Wall Street.

APARTMENTS

(Continued from Page One)
meeting, Hurwitz indicated that he opposed the tax.

However the committee did decide on a method of exempting those below the tax-paying level from the payment of one third of their cost of living increment increment during the freeze. It was decided that the employers would deduct the one third, which would then be returned by the government - but only up to the minimum tax paying levels. All that will be done on one pay slip.

Meanwhile, the special "rapid justice tribunals" established to try suspected price freeze violators continued to operate at full steam. The overwhelming majority of the summonses issued were for failing to post prices, or for posting prices in currency other than the shekel.

In the Haifa Magistrates Court, Judge Eitan Magen bore down strongly yesterday on seven retailers convicted of not displaying prices. He gave them fines ranging from IS20,000 (for first offenders) to IS100,000 for repeaters.

The requirement of displaying prices is not new. But Ministry of Industry and Trade inspectors have rarely issued summonses after merchants complained that in times of runaway inflation it is impossible for a shopkeeper to keep his price tags updated from day-to-day.

Besides the heavy fines, Judge Magen ordered the violators to sign bonds of IS300,000 each for one year, to be activated if they violate the Goods and Services Law again.

The Emergency Regulations of

November 4, which put the price freeze into effect, prescribe a fine of IS2 million or three years' imprisonment for price gouging, or quoting prices in non-Israeli currency.

In the Beersheba Magistrates Court, Judge Moshe Michlis spent less than two minutes each on the 100 businessmen brought before him for overcharging, quoting prices in dollars or failing to display prices in shekels.

The line-up before the judge included operators of clothing, shoe, jewelry and toy shops, as well as operators of motor vehicle garages. Some of the garages were found guilty of failing to post a price list of their hourly labour charges. Judge Michlis' fines ranged from IS25,000 to IS75,000.

The increasing activity at the courts results from the all-day sweeps being made by Industry and Trade Ministry inspectors, reinforced by Customs Department inspectors.

On Wednesday alone, the teams made 116 inspections in Beersheba, 488 in Haifa, 694 in Tel Aviv and 181 in Jerusalem.

IRAQI LOAN. - Britain agreed this month to provide Iraq with £250 million (\$315.5m.) in medium-term credit for financing projects, British Ministry of State for Commerce and Industry, Paul Channon said at the start of a five-day visit to the United Arab Emirates to promote trade and joint ventures this week.

Kiryat Shmona will be cut from rest of country today

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

KIRYAT SHMONA. - The strike of municipality employees and high school teachers is set to escalate today when all employed persons in the town are scheduled to strike for two to three hours in sympathy with those who have been idle since Sunday.

Yesterday, school caretakers kept the elementary schools and kindergartens shut, and their teachers, too, were forced to stay away from the classrooms. Many parents in this Upper Galilee development town stayed away from work rather than let the children roam the streets.

The strikers are protesting against the municipality's failure to pay

October salaries due on November 5.

At a meeting yesterday, it was resolved that the town's residents will block the main street today, thus cutting the town off from the rest of the country.

Helicopter pilots flying over the town yesterday reported large numbers of carrion birds hovering over the piles of stinking garbage and refuse that litter the streets.

Itim adds that Nazareth municipal workers yesterday demonstrated outside the office of the Interior Ministry's representative in the North, Yisrael Koenig, demanding that he do something to get the town out of its financial bind. The workers have been striking for the past seven days.

Postponement likely in Histadrut polls

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - No date has been set for the Histadrut elections, which should be held next April. Histadrut sources acknowledge that it is "highly unlikely" that the elections will be held on time.

Likud Histadrut faction leader Ya'acov Shamir told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday he intended to take the matter up with Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar "very soon." He recalled that Kessar had promised that elections would be held "on time," and said that he would hold the secretary-general to his word.

Alignment sources in the Histadrut said there was now insufficient time to prepare for April elections.

Ideally, they said, the elections should be postponed for a year "for the good of the economy."

Nevertheless, the sources said that they expected the elections to be held some time in 1985.

According to Histadrut regulations, elections can be postponed for three months by decision of the executive. But the Alignment leadership in the Histadrut is reportedly looking for ways to postpone them for longer.

Both the Alignment and the Likud have begun their preparations, despite the lack of an election date. Histadrut treasurer Natan Almog is heading a team preparing the Alignment's campaign.

Baram plans new way of choosing Knesset list

Labour Party Secretary-General Uzi Baram intends to renew all of the party's institutions and to change the party's system of choosing its Knesset list.

The list traditionally has been determined by the party's arrangements committee. This has come under some criticism recently.

Baram also said that the party's

convention, which was due to be held at the end of this year, will be convened next year, with its date depending on when the Histadrut elections take place.

Baram is to leave for Rumania today to be a guest of the Communist Party convention there. Baram will take Nicolae Ceausescu a message from Prime Minister Peres.

Bethlehem money men charged after raid

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Police yesterday raided licensed and illicit money changers in Bethlehem, confiscating \$1,000 and filing charges against four of the unauthorized dealers.

The licensed money changers, who operate in accordance with Jordanian law, were required to sign an order which stipulates that as of next week they may only deal in shekels or Jordanian dinars, and not in U.S. or other foreign currencies.

Girl, 11, critically hurt in hit-and-run by cyclist

REHOVOT (Itim). - An 11-year-old girl was critically injured yesterday afternoon in a hit-and-run accident here when a cyclist knocked her down while she was crossing the street.

Aviva Peretz suffered a broken leg and other body injuries. The cyclist, described by the police as about 15 years old and curly-haired, fled the scene.

Witnesses are asked to contact the police at 08-474499.

Accused baby snatcher to be held for trial

Batya Margoliot, 21, the nanny charged with the kidnapping of year-old Eilat Henig on October 24, will remain in detention until the end of her trial, Judge Dalia Dorner ruled yesterday in the Jerusalem District Court.

The police found Margoliot in the home of her boyfriend in the Shuafat refugee camp two days after the baby disappeared. (Itim)

Woman's sharp eyes avert bomb disaster

NETANYA (Itim). - The sharp eyes of a woman from Upper Nazareth averted a disaster yesterday evening when she detected a suspicious polythene bag lying between two cars in a parking lot behind a restaurant. The woman, Etti Karl, had just finished eating in a steak house at the Netanya intersection and she called the police immediately.

The polythene bag turned out to contain two kilograms of explosives which the sappers neutralized.

Church of England vote favours women priests

LONDON (AP). - The Church of England's policy-making general synod voted yesterday 307-183 in favour of drafting new laws to admit women to the priesthood.

The decision, reversing previous negative votes, came at the end of an all-day debate by bishops, clergy and laity.

The slow process of changing the canon law of the church and the necessity for Parliament to sanction changes means that the earliest date for ordaining women priests would be 1990, a church spokesman said. Some synod members said privately they cannot see the move surviving the obstacles ahead because of the strong opposition of many of the clergy.

YOUTH MOVEMENT. - The conference of the Hashomer Hatzair youth movement has concluded in Givat Haviva after adopting a \$4-million budget.

Captain 'imperilled' ship's crew to help stowaway

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Captain Avner Gilad, who is under investigation for forcing an East African stowaway onto a makeshift raft in March 1982, said yesterday that he sailed into the territorial waters of pro-Soviet Mozambique — thereby endangering his own crew — to ensure that the raft would be carried safely to shore. Gilad was speaking to reporters after testifying at the third day of hearings before the commission set up to investigate the incident by Transport Ministry Haim Corfu.

The third officer confirmed that the m.s. Moran had sailed into Mozambique's territorial waters.

But the ship's carpenter said he was not sure that the raft he had built could make it to the coast. "It was the first time I had ever built a raft," he said.

The third officer and carpenter who also testified before the commission yesterday, were speaking to reporters afterwards.

The story of the stowaway came to light last week when a crew member of the Moran, owned by Kibbutz Meubad's Tarshish shipping com-

pany, revealed it to a Tel Aviv daily. According to the report, the stowaway, found shortly after the ship had left Dar-es-Salaam harbour, was forced onto an improvised raft Gilad had ordered be made on the ship. The inquiry is being headed by Dan Hiran, chairman of the Israel Shipping Research Board.

"I am not denying I endangered the ship," Gilad, 57, of Kibbutz Nahsholim, told reporters. "What did I do it for? To see the view?" Gilad said that his ship would have been in trouble if it had been spotted by a patrol boat.

Ron Gurfinkel, 29, who was the ship's third officer and duty officer when the African was discovered, said the man was spotted on the deck about 20 hours after the Moran sailed from Dar-el-Salaam, in Tanzania.

"The captain talked to him and reached an agreement whereby we would let him off at the coast," Gurfinkel said. The man was told the ship was sailing to South Africa and was "not enthusiastic" about landing there, the officer continued.

The ship then changed course and Yosef Hertz said he was instructed to build a raft.

Hertz used thick boards and big nails, but asked whether it was built well. He said: "It's the first time I ever built a raft." He added he was not a carpenter by profession, but just a seaman assigned to carpentry.

According to Gurfinkel the ship's crew approached the African as he was waiting on the deck for the raft to be prepared and talked him out of being put to sea. So when the raft was completed the stowaway insisted that he remain on board.

He grabbed on to a winch and had to be pulled away, Gurfinkel said. The stowaway climbed down the three-metre rope ladder to the raft but then grabbed on to a ship's rope.

A sailor then cut the rope and the current pulled the man towards the centre of the bay, Gurfinkel continued.

The carpenter said he had thrown a plastic container with water to the stowaway — but it burst open when it hit the water.

It was still not clear where the man was put to sea. The commission showed Gurfinkel a map of the area and asked him to point out the location, but Gurfinkel said the map was too small.

Gurfinkel said the last time he had looked at the radar the ship was about a mile from the coast and sailing towards it. That means the man was let off less than a mile away, he concluded. The carpenter said he saw the coast but could not estimate the distance.

Captain Ephraim Marcovitz, the secretary of the Officers Union, suggested the problem may be cleared if the ship's map is retrieved.

Since it was near the coast, the crew must have marked its location for safety reasons, he said. Once the exact location is determined it will also be possible to tell whether the currents would have dragged the stowaway out to sea or towards the coast, he added.

A ship's master has the right and duty to prevent stowaways from hiding on his ship and to remove them, by force if necessary, according to Marcovitz. Thus, if it is established that all reasonable precautions were taken to ensure that the stowaway would reach land, presumably in this case his own country, Gilad would be vindicated, Marcovitz said.

Soldier waited two hours to fire rocket at Arab bus

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Eighteen-year-old Jerusalem soldier David Ben-Shimol waited for nearly two hours in ambush before firing a LAW rocket at a passing Arab bus in Jerusalem, according to the charge sheet presented yesterday in Jerusalem District Court.

The charge sheet indicts Ben-Shimol with murder in the case of the Arab bus and attempted murder in the case of a bag of ignited explosives he allegedly threw into an Old City cafe.

District Attorney Asher Palgi said Ben-Shimol decided "to take serious steps" against Arabs in reaction to terror, and on September 21 stole the equipment he needed for his plan from his Golan Brigade base.

The next day he put together "an explosive sack" containing detonators, explosive bricks and a flare

grenade, and selected a cafe on Rehov Hashalshelet, corner Rehov Misgav Ladach in the Old City as his target. The charge sheet notes that only quick action by one of the cafe's customers, who tossed the bag back out of the shop, saved the lives of many.

Sometime before October 28, the charge sheet continues, Ben-Shimol wrote the letter signed "The Avengers" in which he described his motives. Then, on October 28, he sought an ambush site on the hill overlooking the Hebron Road, near the Jerusalem Cinematheque. According to the charge sheet, Ben-Shimol waited nearly two hours before firing the rocket into the Arab bus, killing one and wounding 10.

Palgi has requested that Ben-Shimol be held until the end of litigation. The court will rule on the request next week.



Transport Minister Haim Corfu (standing center) gets a first-hand look at the computer link which local experts predict will enable them to make faster and more accurate weather forecasts. (Israel Sun)

The weather outlook is good for faster, better forecasts

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEIT DAGAN. — The forecast is looking good for weather watchers — thanks to a new direct computer link between the meteorological services of Israel and West Germany.

The system was inaugurated here yesterday by Transport Minister Haim Corfu and Dr. Heinz Sandhu, director-general of the West German Transport Ministry at Offenbach.

It will enable local meteorologists to receive up-to-the-minute weather information from around the world

which will lead to faster and more accurate forecasts and for more accurate long-range predictions.

The computer link will also allow the Israel Airports Authority to give up-to-date weather reports to the crew of outgoing flights.

Next month the local meteorological office plans to introduce two new forecasts on Wednesdays, looking ahead to the weekend and Sundays for the rest of the week.

The Offenbach Meteorological Institute is connected to the three main weather centres around the world based in Washington, Moscow and Melbourne.

Gilo's Noam school ordered to close

Noam, the private Torani school in the Gilo neighbourhood was yesterday ordered to cease all operations, wherever they may be held, within 24 hours.

The order, given in the Jerusalem Magistrates Court by Judge Miriam Naor, was granted at the request of the municipality after the school's board had continued to run classes in private apartments despite a High Court order to close classes it had held in a shelter.

Yesterday's order follows a con-

trovery between religious parents in Gilo over the type of schooling their children should have. The Noam parents wanted a school in which boys and girls would study separately and parents would undertake to observe the Sabbath and other commandments. They also wanted a more intensive religious studies curriculum than that offered by the state religious school.

The municipality, for its part, charged that the Noam group was sabotaging integration efforts in the suburb.

Lawyer in murder case asks to be released

HAIFA (Itim). — A Haifa lawyer appointed by the court to defend one of the accused in the murder of Dafna Carmion in June 1982 yesterday asked the Haifa District Court to release him from this duty.

The lawyer, Shimon Meron, appointed last week, told the court that he could not in good conscience defend Mohammed Sabihi, 28, and at the same time remain objective in faithfully serving his interests.

Noting that there is prima facie evidence linking the Carmion murder with that of Danny Katz, 15, in December 1983, and that both crimes may have been committed out of nationalistic motives, Meron said his duty as Sabihi's lawyer might compromise him because of his responsibilities in the security services before practising as a lawyer.

Katzav slams exaggerated jobless figures as damaging

By ILAN CHAIM
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Fears that exaggerated unemployment statistics will discourage investment and lead to greater job losses, were expressed yesterday by Labour and Social Affairs Minister, Moshe Katzav.

He told ministry officials in Jerusalem: "All the exaggerated reports are liable to cause immeasurable damage by driving away potential investors in Israeli industry and deterring factory owners from expanding."

Katzav noted that unemployment had grown, but described the trend as "slow and gradual." He strongly attacked figures released on Wednesday by the Histadrut and claimed they were "out of touch with reality."

The Histadrut figures of "84,000 unemployed" were based on a recent estimate by the Central Bureau of Statistics. But the CBS is only one of three government agencies that

issue unemployment figures — all of which are based on different criteria.

The CBS statistics are derived from a tri-monthly survey of the labour market, a random sample used by many industrialized countries to help gauge the extent of unemployment.

But many of those polled may say they are out of work — and be listed as unemployed — when, in fact, they still have jobs and may only be anticipating losing them.

This is typically the case among workers in faltering plants — or employees in the public sector — who are certain they will be fired soon and psychologically consider themselves unemployed.

In contrast, the State Employment Service bases its unemployment figures on precise data of how many people have been registered at unemployment offices for six days or more (16,293 in October); how many employers have offered jobs (15,977) and how many applicants

have refused jobs (3,450). Unemployed university graduates have a separate employment bureau which issues its own statistics.

The National Insurance Institute pays unemployment benefits to those who qualify and is therefore a source of another set of figures.

There is a huge gap between the 16,293 "unemployed" quoted by Katzav — based on the Employment Service and the 84,000 job-seekers claimed by the Histadrut — based on the CBS. The actual number of jobless is to be found somewhere between the two, but it can only be an estimate.

Many people look for work without ever registering at an employment bureau or being polled by the CBS survey. For example, many mothers of small children have been forced to leave the job market, because their salaries can no longer cover the cost of child care, but are not registered at the employment bureau.

A recent CBS survey carried out on behalf of Na'amat found that 38,800 of the 84,000 unemployed are women. This is an increase of 57.7 per cent over last year.

Katzav described the 40,000 people who applied for work at employment offices during October as "not a large number." He added that there were about 16,000 requests by employers for workers, which is equal to the number of "registered unemployed." Some 3,500 people refused job offers.

There were 1,419 university graduates among those who qualified for unemployment compensation last month, up from 1,198 in September. Among the 10,519 non-academics who the NII said qualified for compensation, 3,017 were new applicants. According to Employment Service spokesman, Zalman Chen, the October figures do not represent a significant increase in unemployment compared to September.

'Gov't fails to take steps in fight against joblessness'

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Histadrut leaders are growing increasingly critical of what they say is the government's failure to take concrete steps to contend with unemployment.

Central committee member Gideon Ben-Yisrael, chairman of the labour federation's labour councils department, yesterday accused the government of "failing to make adequate preparations" despite the worsening employment situation. Ben-Yisrael was addressing a meeting of works committee heads in Jerusalem.

Hevrat Ha'Ovdim secretary Danny Rosolio said that the Histadrut was still waiting for a "comprehensive plan" from the government. "Until now, we've only had talk, and without government planning there is little we can do," he said.

The Histadrut has embarked on a series of mass meetings throughout the country as part of its anti-

unemployment mobilization campaign. Ben-Yisrael's meeting with works committee heads in Jerusalem was the seventh in the series.

Secretary-General Yisrael Keissar yesterday continued his round of meetings, with a trip to Beersheba. He told workers in Haifa on Wednesday that the country would not be able to survive high unemployment.

Histadrut sources say that the government's failure to prepare for unemployment is particularly serious in light of the Treasury's reported plans to dismiss 15,000 civil servants. "How can they dismiss 15,000 workers without preparing to absorb them in industry?" one source said.

Manufacturers Association sources confirm that the government has made no attempt to enlist the manufacturers in formulating plans to absorb workers laid off in the services. They echo Rosolio's statement that without government planning, industrialists can do little to ease the situation.

Disgruntled client beats up Project Renewal man

The head of Project Renewal in the capital's Musara quarter was beaten up in his office by two masked men on Wednesday night, apparently because one of the men had not received accommodations he says he was promised.

Yaniv Shani, the official, was interviewing a woman in his office

when two masked men burst in, armed with clubs. They attacked Shani and the woman, but ran off when Shani disarmed one of them and fought back.

One man was later arrested. He was reportedly disgruntled over Shani's handling of his housing problem. (Itim)

West Bank villager threatens to sue in land ownership row

By MICHAEL EILAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A man from the West Bank village of Jib is threatening to sue a Jewish development company for alleged criminal trespass, claiming that the company has driven a road through his land.

Over the last two weeks the landowner and the company have been struggling over physical possession of the land by bringing their own bulldozers to the site near Givat Ze'ev, the satellite settlement north-west of Jerusalem. Two other villagers from Jib say they are also ready to press similar claims.

Abdullah Salaman Khalafieh said that the Moresbet Binayamin company built the road through his land eight months ago without consulting him. The company claimed that it owns the land but was unwilling to produce the documentary evidence it has to back up this claim.

A spokesman for the company, who identified himself only as "Elhannan," declined to provide details on a meeting he had with Khalafieh's attorney over the dispute.

The attorney, Jonathan Kuttub, said that at the meeting representa-

tives of Moresbet Binayamin did not claim any title to the land. He asserted that the company attempted to reach a compromise by offering Khalafieh compensation for the use of his land.

Last week, a bulldozer hired by Khalafieh tore down a retaining wall built on one side of the road by the company. On Monday, trucks and bulldozers sent by Moresbet Binayamin poured several truckloads of building rubble along the same side of the road rendering it unusable for agriculture.

Kuttub said his client has tax receipts, which Israeli courts recognize only as partial proof of ownership. He said that two other Jib farmers, who say they have Moresbet Binayamin-built roads running through property they claim is theirs, possess firmer proof of ownership.

A spokeswoman for the Civil Administration said that as far as she knew the whole area under question had been purchased by Jewish development companies. Kuttub says that nearly all the land had indeed been bought except for a few pockets.

Nahariya plant staff stage sit-in for compensation

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAHARIYA. — Twenty-five employees of the Edimec factory here staged a day-long sit-in at the plant yesterday when a receiver tried to shut the premises.

The angry workers set fire to tires and demonstrated inside the plant.

REPRESENTATIVE. — Hanan Erez, secretary of Mapam's central committee, has been selected as the party's representative to the 13th convention of the Rumanian Communist party which starts in Bucharest tomorrow. Israel will also be represented by Labour Party and Rakah delegations.

They demanded that they be paid compensation at the rate of one month's salary for every year worked.

Police and firemen were called to the scene. The fire brigade quickly doused the blazing tires and the police stood by to prevent violence. The workers agreed to leave at 5 p.m., but they went without receiving any assurance about their severance payments.

The factory has been employing about 50 people in the manufacture of medical and dental equipment, mainly for export.

The firm's problems apparently arose out of a dispute between the joint owners. One of them wanted to buy out the other who refused and demanded that a receiver be appointed. The firm until recently had annual sales of about \$1 million.

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Tue.	7:45-8:45 8:50-9:50	Eretz Yisrael in Halacha and Jewish Thought	Rabbi Dr. Sholom Gold
Wed.	7:45-8:45 8:50-9:50	Pirkei Avot Practical Jewish Law	Rabbi Shraga Solomon
Wed.	7:45-8:45	Talmud in English	Rabbi Dr. Sholom Gold

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Hoteliers upset by the cutting of stars

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Tourism representatives on the ministry's hotel affairs advisory council make up their minds on what action to take against hotels before the councils holds its discussions, the Israel Hotel Association charged yesterday.

The council consists of 14 ministry officials and two association representatives.

Earlier this week the ministry's director-general told the press that the council had decided to reduce the star-rating of a number of hotels because of food hygiene and other substandard conditions in the establishments.

Calling the information given in the press "distorted and wicked," association president Maurice Cassouto said the decision to reduce the star-ratings was brought typed to the council meeting, thus turning the discussion into a farce.

Noting that ministry officials outnumber association representatives on the council, Cassouto said any decision the ministry's representatives want to make is passed.

He called on Tourism Minister Avraham Shafir to take immediate action to "stop the public campaign of punishment" against Israel's hotels.

"We are all for criticism and supervision, but we will not put up with what the Tourism Ministry officials are doing to us."

The hotel people are also upset that the council's recommendation to reduce the star-ratings reached the press before it did the hotels concerned, or the association.

Greece favours Arabs, says Israel

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel yesterday accused Greece of pro-Arab bias and demanded that the Greek government reconsider its promise to promote Syrian and Jordanian positions within the European Community.

In an official statement Foreign Ministry spokesman Avi Pazner said he was "surprised" that Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu had announced that at the European summit in Dublin next month he would "speak up in the name of Jordan and Syria."

The Greek prime minister gave this commitment in statements to the press on his recent visit to Damascus and Amman and repeated it when he got back to Athens.

Pazner said: "Those who think that such one-sided attitudes will enhance their prestige in the Arab world are in for a bitter disappointment."

Shamir leaves for U.S.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir left last night for Los Angeles to attend a special Israel Bonds event in honour of Armand Hammer, the oil magnate, philanthropist and art collector, part of whose art collection is on show at the Israel Museum.

Israel Bonds is honouring Hammer for his many contributions to Israel's economic development and for his efforts in past years to help Soviet Jewry.

Shamir will return next Wednesday.

Big manhunt in India for Sikh bus attackers

NEW DELHI. — Security forces, supplemented by army helicopters, launched a manhunt in Punjab state yesterday for seven Sikh gunmen who ambushed a bus and escaped with four Sikh prisoners, the United News of India reported.

The Sikhs opened fire inside a bus Wednesday night in Faridkot district, killing one passenger and injuring two others, including an armed police escort, UNI said.

Four Sikh extremists charged with murder were being taken to jail under police escort when the gunmen boarded the passenger bus and opened fire, UNI said.

In New Delhi yesterday the surviving assassin of Indian prime

minister Indira Gandhi was discharged from a government hospital and taken by police to an undisclosed destination.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said Sarwant Singh, a 21-year-old Delhi policeman, was arrested after he left the hospital and escorted by a heavy police guard, probably for interrogation.

Singh survived several bullet wounds, but fellow assassin Beant Singh was killed when paramilitary commandos opened fire at the two men minutes after they gunned down Gandhi on October 31 outside her official residence.

PTI said he was suffering from

partial paralysis of his legs because of a bullet still embedded in his spine.

Police refused to comment on a report in the independent *Hindustan Times* newspaper yesterday that Sarwant Singh had told interrogators the assassination was financed from abroad.

Quoting reliable sources as saying Singh's confession confirmed earlier suspicions of foreign involvement in the murder plot, the newspaper said: "He is reported to have even named the people who prompted and financed him to execute the murder."

The Indian government yesterday reported that 1,277 people were killed

in the riots following Gandhi's assassination.

The report, made to a parliamentary committee by Home Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, updated earlier government figures on the death toll in the four days of sectarian violence.

The minister said 651 people died in New Delhi, including 13 in police gunfire, and 518 were killed in six northern and eastern states during the wave of arson, looting and murder.

Of the remaining 108 deaths, Rao said an unspecified number occurred in lynchings on Delhi-bound trains. (AP, Reuters)

UN criticized for too many first-class flights

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters). — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was criticized yesterday for granting too many exceptions to the rule against first-class travel.

While the General Assembly's budgetary control committee discussed UN air travel, Perez de Cuellar, his wife and a bodyguard were on their way back to New York aboard an Air France Concorde from Paris — a flight that cost \$1,394 each — after visiting famine-stricken Ethiopia.

A spokesman said the UN chief took the Concorde flight to be back for the assembly's debate on Afghanistan.

Andrew Murray of Britain said a significant number of exceptions were being made for first-class travel. He asked how many UN staff were upgraded to business class from economy-class and suggested that business replace first-class.

Africans debate drought, slam Israel

ADDIS ABABA. — The 50-member Organization of African Unity summit passed resolutions yesterday ranging from measures to combat economic decline and the catastrophic drought ravaging the continent to condemnations against Israel and South Africa, conference sources said.

The 20th Pan-African summit recessed before the election of a new secretary-general and the closing session.

Conference organizers would not say immediately what resolutions were passed. Details were expected to be released after the closing session.

Earlier, African and Arab leaders debated draft resolutions including a call for a commission of reconciliation in Chad, the former French territory where Libyan-backed guerrillas are fighting the government of Hissene Habre. Copies of proposals were circulated to journalists while the summit debate went on behind closed doors.

Top African economist Adebayo Adedeji, head of the Addis Ababa-based U.N. Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), gave a bleak report on Wednesday on the continent's economic plight, estimating the African debt at \$150 billion. (AP, Reuters)

Frenchman charged as Russian spy

PARIS (Reuters). — A French office worker appeared in court Wednesday charged with spying for the Soviet Union by passing industrial secrets to a KGB officer.

Patrick Guerrier, 29, who worked in a documentation service of the state coal corporation, Charbonnages de France, admitted meeting the Soviet agent, Alexander Zaitsev, about 20 times between the end of 1981 and October 1982, often for lunch.

Zaitsev said he was a commercial attaché at the Soviet Embassy, but in fact worked for the KGB, an official of the French DST counter-espionage service told the special assize court in Paris.

Guerrier also admitted handing Zaitsev documents, including some with a restricted circulation, such as the 1980-1981 annual report of the activity of the coal company's study and research centre. He denied the report contained important information.

Guerrier was arrested at his home in Meaux, east of Paris, a few days before Zaitsev was expelled from France on April 5 last year with 46 other Soviet personnel, charged with spying on French economic, scientific and military targets.

7,000 slaves freed in marijuana bust

MEXICO CITY (Reuters). — Mexican police have seized 13,000 tons of marijuana and freed some 7,000 peasants held as slaves, the attorney-general's office said Wednesday.

The peasants had been kept as slave workers on remote desert ranches in the northern state of Chihuahua where the marijuana was grown, dried and packaged for sale in the U.S., the police said.

Judicial officials said the anti-drug sweep, which began last week, ended with 13,000 tons of marijuana confiscated along with processing equipment.

They estimated the U.S. street value of the marijuana at \$6.5 billion.

Soldiers on Wednesday burned some 4,000 tons.

'Butcher of Balkans' held for extradition

LOS ANGELES (AP). — A reputed Nazi war criminal sought by Yugoslavia for prosecution on mass murder charges was arraigned Wednesday on an extradition warrant as he lay in a hospital-jail ward with machines monitoring his heart and tubes in his arm and nose.

Andrija Artukovic, 84, held in the jail ward of Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, spoke through an interpreter as U.S. Magistrate Ralph Geffen sought to establish whether Artukovic is competent to face an extradition hearing.

Artukovic, who was arrested on Wednesday at his seaside home in Seal Beach, was described by Justice

Department officials as the highest-ranking war criminal known to be residing in the U.S. He has fended off deportation efforts for almost 35 years.

In a civil lawsuit and in a book by a former Justice Department Nazi hunter, Artukovic was partly blamed for the wartime slaughter of some 750,000 Jews, Serbs, Orthodox Christians and gypsies in the Nazi puppet state of Croatia, where he served as a cabinet member from 1941 to 1943.

Artukovic indicated during the nearly two-hour arraignment that he understood the charges.

However, his attorneys say Artukovic, known as "the butcher of the

Balkans," suffers from Alzheimer's disease and other psychological problems in addition to an array of physical ailments including serious heart difficulties.

"The offences are the most heinous of any charges against any human being," Geffen said. "At the same time, Mr. Artukovic is entitled to the same protections as anyone else."

Geffen temporarily ordered Artukovic held without bail at County-USC's jail ward to undergo psychiatric and medical examinations. He set another hearing for next Tuesday when doctors will report on Artukovic's condition, but he did not require Artukovic to attend.

"It's a matter of record that the atrocities which took place were unspeakable," said Neal Sher, director of the Office of Special Investigations at the Justice Department. "Some have said they were many times worse, than the atrocities committed by the SS. And Artukovic clearly was in the mainstream."

Artukovic is alleged to have entered the U.S. on a false passport in 1948.

Artukovic also faces a December 22 hearing in a civil lawsuit by five survivors of Holocaust victims seeking monetary damages for his alleged responsibility for the deaths of their relatives.

North-South Korean talks get off to friendly start

PANMUNJOM (AP). — In an atmosphere that was amicable from start to finish, South and North Korea yesterday held their first talks devoted exclusively to economic matters since the partition of the peninsula in 1945.

The two-hour, 37-minute meeting in this truce village in the demilitarized zone revived hopes that some meaningful dialogue might be in store, aimed at eventual unification of the divided land. All other efforts at reunification over the years have broken off in bitter failure.

The seven-man delegations from each side exchanged warm greetings at the conference table, then agreed quickly on procedural matters.

The chief South Korean delegate, Kim Ki-hwan, 52, later told reporters it was a "good initial start. The

discussions progressed very smoothly."

Both sides proposed that railway links, now cut, be reopened to help transport goods across the border. The North proposed that two ports in the North and two ports in the South be opened for mutual trade.

Vice-Trade Minister Li Sung-rok, the chief North Korean delegate, also called for the reopening of irrigation canals that cross the demilitarized zone.

Some observers in Seoul said the North appeared eager for joint ventures in order to stimulate foreign investment.

The delegates set December 5 for a second session of the talks. The two Koreas also have agreed to resume their Red Cross contacts in Panmunjom on Tuesday to discuss humanitarian issues.

Japanese riot police protect plutonium against protesters

TOKYO (Reuters). — Riot police kept anti-nuclear demonstrators away from a Tokyo wharf early yesterday during unloading of a cargo of radioactive plutonium shipped from France.

Members of anti-nuclear groups on board two small boats were kept away by maritime safety agency ships and patrol boats manned by 200 riot police, as 288 kilos of plutonium oxide were unloaded, police said.

The six containers of plutonium were sent to an experimental fast breeder reactor in Tokai, northeast of Tokyo.

Press reports said the vessel,

which left France on October 5, was carrying enough plutonium to produce about 20 atomic bombs of the type dropped on Hiroshima in 1945.

A spokesman for the protesters said, "We believe such transport is dangerous. This plutonium is the raw material for nuclear bombs."

The departure of the ship from France, where the plutonium had been extracted from spent Japanese nuclear fuel, spurred strong protests from European environmental groups. They said they feared accidents or a hijacking.

American military satellites tracked the ship and U.S. warships escorted it during its 40-day voyage.

Aids may have killed three Aussie babes

BRISBANE (Reuters). — Three babies have died and another is seriously ill after receiving blood suspected of being contaminated by the deadly AIDS virus, Australian medical authorities revealed yesterday.

An urgent investigation was under way after officials linked the babies' condition to transfusions from a male homosexual here.

Meanwhile, emergency legislation was being pushed through the state parliament last night which would

impose jail sentences or heavy fines on donors who were knowingly misleading about their suitability to give blood.

The blood from the 27-year-old man was given to the babies at a Brisbane hospital after he made a donation in February. The babies died in September and October.

Medical researchers in Boston yesterday announced they had evidence that seemingly "healthy" female carriers of AIDS could pass it on to their unborn children.

Lighted cigarette brings down the house

PERTH (Reuters). — John Sokolenko made three unsuccessful suicide attempts — he drank a poison concoction, took 156 painkillers and finally blew his house up when he tried to gas himself.

A court in the mining town of Kalgoorlie heard that Sokolenko, 33, was thrown three metres out of his back door in the gas explosion, but escaped unhurt.

He was remanded in custody this week until November 30 for a pre-sentence report, after being found guilty of criminal negligence in reducing his home to rubble.

Sokolenko, who is unemployed, pleaded not guilty. His lawyer said he had been under stress after separating from his wife.

The poison concoction Sokolenko used included flyspray. When this failed, he tried a massive dose of painkillers: all that produced was one day of sickness. He then tried to gas himself by using a gas bottle in a bedroom. But when he woke up five hours later, to find he was still alive, he lit a cigarette and brought his home down.

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Sports

SOCCER PREVIEW

Triple-header at Bloomfield

By PAUL KOHN
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The crowd-puller at the Bloomfield Stadium tomorrow, where no fewer than three National League games will be played, will be the clash between Maccabi Netanya and Betar Jerusalem, which kicks off at 2:30 p.m.

For the second season in succession Maccabi Netanya got off to a poor start, but there has been a vast improvement in the football coming from the Diamond City in recent weeks. Netanya fans will consider themselves unlucky not to have this match in their town, the venue having been switched to Jaffa because of Football Association disciplinary action against the Maccabi team. Were it not for the loss of three points by an FA ruling because a missile was thrown at a linesman some weeks ago, Maccabi Netanya might be level on points with Betar near the top of the table.

Netanya have been weakened by the departure of Oded Machness and the absence through injuries of David Pizanti and Haim Bar, but David Lavie, Benny Lamm and Moshe Ganiani have been in fine form and will take some holding. Betar Jerusalem play their best soccer at Bloomfield when a large crowd is present, recently beating Maccabi Haifa there by 3-2 and notching a series of wins there last season. Betar are within three points of league leaders Maccabi Haifa and

their 5-0 win last Saturday indicates that they intend to keep up the challenge. A high-class match looks likely, and there may not be much at it at the end.

Shimon at home to Maccabi Yaffo open the marathon programme at 11 a.m., followed by Maccabi Tel Aviv against Hapoel Lod at 12:45 p.m. Home wins look on the cards in these games.

Maccabi Haifa returns to Kiryat Haim to entertain Hapoel Beersheba. The Haifa wagon was derailed in Petah Tikva last week where they lost 1-0, not scoring a goal for the first time in 27 league matches. With the Ronnie Rosenthal and Baruch Maman "strikes" now forgotten, these two fine schemers should once again create the openings for striker, Zahi Armeli and Moshe Selektor to notch the necessary goals for a fifth or three points.

The turbulence this week at Hapoel Tel Aviv will not have done much to settle things in that team but they will have few better chances to return to winning ways than tomorrow. Sinai, Zano, Landau and Co. cross town to Maccabi Jaffa who are at the foot of the National League table, having already conceded 18 goals and having scored mere two! The influence of new coach Yaacov Grundman will not be felt yet, but the Hapoel players possess enough individual ability to walk away with three points.

Scots trounce Spain 3-1

GLASGOW (Reuters). — Scotland delighted a capacity 74,000 crowd in Glasgow by beating European Championship runners-up Spain 3-1. Celtic striker Maurice Johnston putting them on the victory trail with two first-half goals. Kenny Dalglish scored a third that was sheer magic. Andoni Goikoetxea got Spain's only goal.

Scotland's victory left them at the top of Group Seven with a maximum four points from two games, and they must be considered hot favourites to participate in the finals of the World Cup for the fourth successive time in Mexico in 1986.

But the Netherlands, beaten finalists in 1974 and 1978, are unlikely to make the trip across the Atlantic. They suffered their second defeat when they lost 1-0 to Austria in Vienna and now prop up Group Five, which is headed by unbeaten Hungary.

Wales, beaten 3-0 by Spain in Seville last month, claimed their first points with a much-needed 2-1 win against Iceland in Cardiff. Manchester United's latest scoring sensation Mark Hughes netting the winner in the 63rd minute.

European championship finalists Denmark also returned to something approaching their best form in Copenhagen where they trounced Ireland 3-0 to go to the top of Group

Six goals by Verona striker Pierben Eliajaer and another from Bayern Munich midfielder Sepp Liekefiedt the Danes above at beaten Switzerland on goal difference but the two West European may still face a challenge from the Soviet Union.

Unpredictable Sweden three Group Two wide open when the came from a goal behind to score sensational 3-1 win against previously unbeaten Portugal in Lisbon.

The Portuguese, who almost beat France's dramatic Euro Cup Championship semi-final clash in Marseilles last June, opened the score through Jordao in the 11th minute.

That should have been the signal for Sweden to accept their fate and start making alternate plans for 1986. Instead, they stunned Portugal with three goals in the space of 12 minutes. West Germany and Czechoslovakia Group favourites.

Midfielder Robert Prytz, who plays for 5th tier premier league side Glasgow Rangers, was involved in the move which led to Terry Nilsson netting the third after 38 minutes.

Northern Ireland beat Finland 2-1 in a Group Three qualifying match.

Finland went ahead when Mikko Leppa shot home in the 21st minute, but the home side equalized just before half time through J. O'Neill. Gerry Armstrong scored the winner for Northern Ireland early in the second half.

Turkey 0, England 0, Scotland 3, Spain 1, Austria 1, Netherlands 0, Wales 2, Iceland 0, Denmark 3, Ireland 0, Portugal 1, Sweden 1, Northern Ireland 2, Finland 1.

Youthful Pacers down Rockets

NEW YORK (AP). — For eight games, the Houston Rockets used the talents of Rookie Akeem Olajuwon and second-year men Ralph Sampson and Rodney McCray to post the only unbeaten record in the National Basketball Association. But on Wednesday night, an even more youthful team, the Indiana Pacers, broke the streak, handing the Rockets their first loss, 125-117.

In other NBA games, it was Boston 115, New York 99; Washington 125, San Antonio 106; Detroit 137, Philadelphia 133 in overtime; and Phoenix 98, New Jersey 86.

SCOREBOARD

RUGBY. — The touring Australian Rugby team were beaten 15-13 by Ulster in a leading 15-6 midway through the second half. ICE HOCKEY. — Vancouver Canucks Detroit Red wings 2; Montreal Canadiens Edmonton Oilers 2; Pittsburgh Penguins Winnipeg Jets 3; Buffalo Sabres 4, St. Louis 3; Los Angeles Kings 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 3; Chicago Blackhawks 6, New York Rangers 3. QUADRA. — New Zealanders Ross Norman the German Open, beat Australian 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in the final. CRICKET. — The match between England and the Indian Cricket Board President's XI draws. President's XI 198 for 8 dec. and for 3, England 444 for 8 dec.

ISRAELI RUGBY. — Double-header at Tel Aviv Sports tomorrow 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.

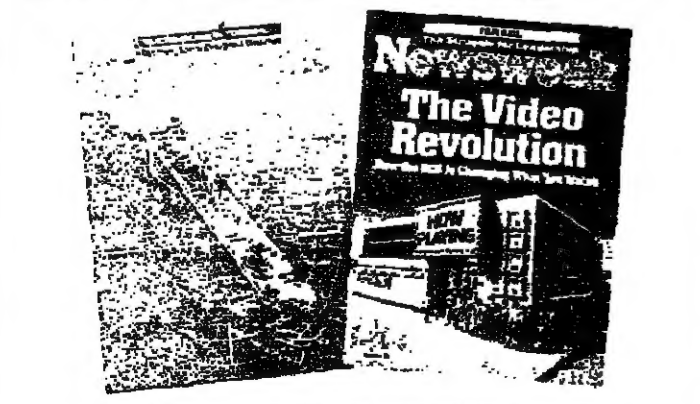
FIELD HOCKEY. — Seven-a-side at Wia Institute tomorrow, starting 9 a.m.

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The billion-dollar question

Pinchas Landau asks leading investment advisers how foreign investors can be attracted to Israel's high-tech industries

from abroad, in terms of what he might expect from his investment here. I cannot answer even the most elementary questions that he would put to me.

This is not only because of the very high rates of inflation, which certainly make any forward planning exceedingly difficult, what Tolowsky had in mind was the non-existence of a corporate tax framework and the non-operation of the relevant government investment authorities.

Immediately after the July elections, the government froze all new expenditure for three months; this has now been extended for a further three months. Included in this move, aimed primarily at cutting current government expenditure, was the Investment Authority and the other official bodies that deal with reviewing and authorizing investment plans. As a result, says Tolowsky, many projects have been "stuck" in the bureaucratic pipeline ever since.

Investments have simply been tarred with the same broad brush used to rub out consumption.

In addition, even when new projects were being processed, the lag in transferring the money that the government agreed to give as grants or loans towards a scheme caused its value to erode significantly, so that the amount authorized in real terms turned out to be far more than the amount received.

FAR WORSE than these problems, severe though they are, is the state of the tax system. Here the DIC management was not referring to the slump in collections of which we have heard so much, but the bald fact that in the tax year starting April 1, 1985, for which planning ought to have already commenced, there is no tax law on which to base such planning.

A few years ago, management officials explained, the Ronel Law gave protection to the capital of approved industrial companies (as defined in the relevant laws) against inflation. Not all such companies were included, only those which had at least partial foreign ownership. Two classes were recognized: those with 25 per cent of their capital originating abroad, and those with

49 per cent. The object was to prevent the owners' equity from being wiped out by inflation, which was then running at about 100 per cent annually.

The benefits given under the law were valid for 10 years, after which time the new company was expected to have reached viability. The fact that the Israeli partner also benefited from this law was not disturbing either, since experience proved that joint ventures had the greatest chance of success.

situation may be in itself, the idea of discussing new investments with American investors in this sort of chaotic environment is altogether laughable.

Tolowsky's anger over this matter is thus quite understandable. "There is not a sufficient degree of understanding in the Treasury, in the Investment Authority and in the Bank of Israel as to how important these things are," he says. "They don't take decisions. They say they have to sort out the major issues of

then could be done with the idea - and the money?"

Here the DIC team has some pretty clear notions.

In the first place, before considering the question of who would give the money, everyone agrees who should get it - or rather, who should not get it. If the money went to the government, even as a special budget, it would not be put to the best use; of this, there is no doubt. The whole operation should be government-sponsored, and the pre-

ventures, particularly Israeli ones. In the context of an official government-backed scheme, however, and using the good name of Israeli technology as a selling-point, there is no reason why large sums could not be raised.

Investors could be culled from the entire investment community in the United States - individual, institutional and even corporate. There would be no need, and no reason, to restrict the idea to the Jewish community.

But in order to arrive at this delightful situation and make the vision a reality, there must first be a total reform of the taxation system.

In Eshel's opinion, the main themes of this reform should be a move away from direct taxation towards indirect taxation (nowadays often more progressive than it was considered in classical taxation theory); encouraging exports through tax breaks or exemptions, and - perhaps more important - simplifying all the tax laws.

This, again, is at the level of "clearing the ground" so that investment can be made feasible. Beyond that, there is a crying need to prepare the human infrastructure that must be the key factor in the types of industries envisaged as recipients of the investment funds. In this respect, Elscint boss Avraham Suhumi has collected figures that show that Israel is rapidly losing its relative price advantage in the area of labour costs in the hi-tech sectors.

Suhumi's research proves that the cost of an engineer or equivalently qualified person is higher in Israel than in most European countries - that is, to the employer. Employees' take-home pay is far less in Israel than abroad. Because of the long list of perks and extras imposed on employers by government and quasi-governmental bodies, and by unions and employees themselves, the ratio of total wage cost to take home pay rises to 4-5:1 for more senior personnel, compared to the national average of about 2.5:1 (which is itself very high by international standards).

SINCE THE TWO main factors that attract foreigners to take advantage

of the Israeli labour market (in hi-tech oriented industries) are the availability of relatively cheap, but highly qualified, personnel, it seems clear that the government must create the conditions that allow these factors to remain and stop their current deterioration. The cost factor stems, once more, from the tax structure, while the quality of personnel is dependent on the education system.

Therefore, one of the most pressing needs for, and uses of, the money, is to deal with the bottleneck being created in the labour market by the low numbers of qualified engineers and technicians that are being trained to join industry. It is precisely in the less refined grades of skilled technicians that the problem is most acute, and the allocation of money to build and expand training colleges could have an almost immediate impact.

Existing companies have any number of uses for new capital which, for the reasons mentioned, they are unable to raise in the normal way. Investment funds flowing to them would find good uses in a broad range of fields, from entirely new venture capital and seed-money projects to established firms with a need to expand.

Another intriguing idea raised by Eshel and his colleague, Gideon Erhard, is pressing the Americans to buy our products instead of giving us more aid. This is not a new idea as such, but in light of the fact that the U.S. Defence Department's procurement budget runs to \$140b, annually, of which the grand sum of \$15m, is spent on Israeli goods (contrast Oman \$45m, and Saudi Arabia \$60m), there is clearly much that could be done in this area.

Finally, there is the option of doing things from scratch, i.e. building new plants and factories, perhaps in development towns, as Peres and others would like. This is the hardest way of approaching the thorny investment problem, but there may well be roses on that bush as well.

The long and the short of it is that one billion dollars - or any serious amount of investment money - could be used in numerous ways to help the country towards its economic and industrial goals. However, and this is the big qualification, the government has a great deal of work to do before it can expect real investors to put real money into Israeli industry. The knowledge and ability to create industrial wealth are known to exist and have been proved over and over. What has been lacking is the actions to accompany government rhetoric.

'The government has a great deal of work to do before it can expect real investors to put real money into Israeli industry'

However, when the law expired in 1982, it was not renewed, because the new Law of Taxation Under Inflationary Conditions was designed to replace and supplement it - or so the Treasury claimed at the time.

The new law, however, was a major disaster in that almost no one understood it, and its application proved almost impossible. Many amendments were introduced, but the overall confusion has remained. There is now a general feeling that the law should not be extended when it expires at the end of next March. A committee of experts has been appointed to recommend the principles that should underlie its replacement, but it hardly seems possible that it will succeed in reporting (and the Knesset in legislating) in time for the next tax year.

The likelihood is, therefore, that the legislation pertaining to company taxes will only be completed later in 1985, and will be applied retroactively, from April 1 of next year.

It is against this background that Israeli companies are supposed to be making decisions about their activities for the calendar year 1985 and fiscal 1985/86. Ridiculous as this

inflation and so on, before dealing with investments. That's certainly very true, but what are they waiting for?"

YA'AKOV ESHEL, another member of the DIC management team, highlights a further source of disappointment with the government. At the Economic Conference (held in Israel last May), an explicit promise was made to renew the Ronel Law, yet nothing has been done. He echoes Tolowsky in his assessment that "investment money won't come now, because it is impossible to answer the most straightforward questions on what yield it might earn, and so forth."

In short, the present state of governmental chaos and the administrative vacuum makes the discussion of how to invest one billion dollars - or even much smaller sums - a highly theoretical exercise from the viewpoint of the people "on the spot" in the field of industrial investment.

HOWEVER, ASSUMING that all the missing taxation laws and bureaucratic infrastructure were supplied (this is obviously a giant assumption, but without it the discussion could get no further), what

mier and other ministers would unquestionably be the best possible salesmen for it, but the actual cash should be kept away from the government and its agencies.

It could be managed by or through funds, such as the \$200m. mutual fund that a Texan investor named Brenna is seeking to establish, for the express purpose of investing in Israeli industry. It could also, if the sums were large enough, be invested directly by the people involved in specific projects. Alternatively, the investors could link their capital with local know-how in joint-venture projects.

Last - and not least in the view of DIC - the investors could use their money to buy into concerns like DIC, its sister outfit, PEC, some of the subsidiaries of Clal, or, indeed, any one of Israel's various investment companies which have a proved track record of successful industrial promotion, and are all starved for new capital.

The great problem of these companies for the last half-year and more has been that they could raise no capital on the Tel Aviv market - for well-known reasons. Nor has the atmosphere on the New York markets been conducive to new hi-tech

Policing the prices

The Post's Aaron Sittner joins a band of price-freeze examiners

DON'T SHOW ME another bag of flour, or rice, or salt or sugar. And don't show me another 50-gm. bar of Elite bittersweet chocolate, for at least a month. But above all, please don't ask me the price.

Not that I have anything against these items, which in Israel, as elsewhere, are virtually staples. What happened was that one day this week, I joined a cluster of price-freeze "examiners" as they made their rounds, checking whether Mr. Israeli Shopkeeper really gives a damn about the freeze.

The four examiners I accompanied (they refuse to be called inspectors) work out of the Jerusalem district office of the Ministry of Industry and Trade. In non-price-freeze times, they have other duties in addition to enforcing price ceilings on subsidized commodities and price-controlled merchandise.

For example, they check weights and measures, and organize Melekh, the emergency civilian manpower recruitment programme. They distribute wholesale the frozen beef the ministry imports. And they even help industrialists find factory space.

But these days, all their attention is focused on the price freeze and its enforcement. "We are optimistic about the package deal and believe everybody is going to cooperate," assistant district director Yisrael Mishan, told me. Working with his own 15 examiners plus 20 ministry employees from other units and 30 men lent by the Treasury's customs department, Mishan's boss, Netanel Liram, covers an area extending to Meholia in the north, Kallia in the south, the Jordan River to the east and the Trans-Samaria highway to the west. "O.K., get going!" Mishan

directed. So off I went with Ya'acov, Ephraim, Doron and Avi. With Asher at the wheel of the unmarked ministry van, we were soon on our way to Beit Shemesh which had not been visited by the examiners since November 4, the date the price freeze order came into force.

ON THE WAY, group leader Yaacov laid out the strategy. Grocery shops or mini-markets would be selected at random. Avi and Doron, operating individually, would enter a shop, buy a kilo of flour, a kilo of sugar and a 50-gm. bar of Elite bittersweet chocolate. After paying for their purchases, they were to ask for a receipt and return to the car where Ya'acov, Ephraim (a senior supervisor), Asher and I would be waiting with a copy of the official price list in our hands.

Besides the random checks, Ephraim explained, there were two shopkeepers in Beit Shemesh against whom complaints had been lodged - for various things - more than six months ago. So, in the course of our visit to the town "special attention" would be given to these establishments.

First stop: Rehov Hama'apilim. Avi jumps out to Avraham Haroush's grocery, and Doron to the next-door shop, belonging to Avraham Vaknin.

They're back at the van within three minutes, each carrying a plastic bag containing a kilo of rice and a kilo of flour. Each man produces his sales slip. One has an official-looking printed one, the other a widely-scribbled receipt on a scrap of wrapping paper ripped from a package.

Surprise! both receipts read alike: IS330 (for the rice) and IS205 (for

the flour). "Fine!", says Ya'acov. "Now let's see if they're displaying the prices."

I follow Ya'acov and Ephraim into the two shops, where they identify themselves, acknowledge that the two just-completed sales were in order, and begin nosing around the shelves to read the price tags.

Beit Shemesh grocers, it seems so far, are on the right side of the law. All prices are readily available to the customer, either on the shelf edges, or on price lists hanging near the cash register.

Both shopkeepers are given copies of the official price list in poster form, with the suggestion that they hang it up near the entrance. Just before we leave, Avi and Doron re-appear with their purchases, which they place on the counter, and ask for a refund.

(Ya'acov explains to me that goods bought in test purchases are not always returned; they must be held as court exhibits in cases of price gouging. After a trial is over, all of the food is donated to an orphanage.)

ISRAELI consumers are entitled to receive a receipt for every purchase they make - even for a loaf of bread. I am told, in fact, these examiners sometimes deliberately ask for a receipt after they have been given their change. If he senses that a customer is really an inspector, the shopkeeper throws some more change on the counter together with the receipt and an "Oh! there has been a slight mixup in the price..." or something like that.

Stop number three: a lone grocery shop on the block. Doron leaves the van to buy a kilo of sugar and a

50-gm. bar of Elite bittersweet chocolate.

"I think we've caught someone," he says on his return to the van. "He charged me IS180 for the chocolate, which is IS175 on the price list."

We check, and sure enough, there is a five-shekel difference. So we all jump out and invade the shop. The poor grocer starts trembling and mumbling about his health, and even produces documents from Kupa Holim certifying that he has had several heart attacks and should not even work. "What do you want to kill me?" he cries out. "Do you want to kill me?"

"No," replies Ya'acov. "All we want is that you observe the law and don't raise prices. Look at this receipt. Why did you charge our man IS180 for a IS175 bar of chocolate?"

Suddenly, as all eyes focused on Doron's sales slip (IS180 plus IS130) it became apparent that a terrible mistake had occurred. The IS180 was not for the chocolate but for the kilo of sugar. For the chocolate, our grocer had charged only IS130, when he could have charged IS175. His IS130 was based on the Elite Company's price list of October 28, which suggested IS137 as the retail price.

Still trembling, the weak grocer repeated, "What do you want from me? What have I done wrong? Here, I have sold you chocolate for less than the official price, and you barge in like cannibals to give me another heart attack!"

The examiners immediately realize that the error had been theirs, not the grocer's. They slowly retreat into the street, without even an apology.

Stop number three: a lone grocery shop on the block. Doron leaves the van to buy a kilo of sugar and a

market against which an anonymous complaint of overcharging had been lodged many months ago. This time it was Avi's turn, and he walked in to buy a kilo of sugar and a bag of table salt.

"That guy's crazy," he said when he returned to the van. "He charged me the right price for the sugar. But instead of IS89 for the salt, he took only IS60."

After noting this in the mini-market complaint file, Ya'acov led us into the store. Not only were all products marked or price-listed, but quite a few were priced well below the allowable maximum.

"Here's a new official price list to hang up at the entrance," said Ya'acov as we left the shop. Outside, he jotted down in the file: "It is recommended that this file be closed."

He explained that he was doing this in view of the man's present behaviour, and besides, unless a complainant is prepared to identify himself and testify against a suspected violator, there is almost no chance of getting a conviction in court. Past experience has shown that anonymous complaints frequently come not from victimized consumers, but from personal enemies or competitors.

AT THE BUSTLING Beit Shemesh went to find out why a certain electrical-goods dealer had charged IS530 for five plastic wall boxes last year, while his competitor next door was asking IS150 for the same articles.

It was during this visit that I

learned a new fact of life about Israeli economics: under the Goods and Services Law, even articles such as plastic boxes - which appear neither on the list of government-subsidized commodities nor on the list of price-controlled goods - must not be sold at an "unreasonable" profit.

Who decides what is reasonable and what is not? I asked.

"It depends on a few factors," Ya'acov explained. "First, we have experts who study manufacturers' costs. Secondly, the marketplace itself tells you. If most shopkeepers sell an item for X or around X, we will not tolerate any shopkeeper charging Y. That's the law."

Having learned the law, I returned to the van, where the other three examiners soon appeared. "We hit 12 shops, and not a single one was overcharging or failing to post prices. Unbelievable, but true. Beit Shemesh is O.K."

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GIVE SOLDIERS

HE ARRIVED a little late, smiled his apologies. Abba Eban did not say it, but he had been, as chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, entertaining South Africa's Foreign Minister "Pik" Botha to lunch.

He looks younger than his years, less jowly than on television. As the interview got under way I regretted for the first time ever that I had not brought a tape-recorder. Even during an unrehearsed question-and-answer session, Abba Eban pours out cascades of stirring prose.

The subject is whether the Israel of today conforms with the vision he had 35 years ago when he pleaded for our recognition as a nation in the forums of the world.

"Thinking back I feel a certain discomfort," says Eban.

"We created a utopian image; we predicted that the new state would be 'a light unto the nations'." Zionist spokesmen at the time, he noted, were free to idealize because they worked in the abstract, the Jewish people were creating something out of nothing. "Israel's case wasn't self-evident. We were not a nation sitting on their land and asking for statehood, like Ghana, Kenya, Malawi."

"Being free of objective restraints we indulged in resonant rhetoric. I must have kindled many hearts with this probably unattainable concept of perfection. My speech calling for Israel's acceptance to membership in the UN was replete with noble commitments - to democracy, equality, social justice, all articulated in the most strenuous terms."

"Now I wake up in the mornings with a twinge. Did I help create excessive expectations not only in my own mind - that is reparable - but in the minds of others?"

"And yet when I look at the different nations' achievements, I am partially consoled. Making allowance for human imperfections, we still present a positive balance."

The shortfalls are dismal. Originally "the idea that Israel could be anything other than a democracy never entered our heads," says Eban, adding that anti-democratic ideas are now heard inside the Knesset, and not only from Meir Kahane. He does not detect in Tehiya, Morasha or indeed in any of the groups to the right of Meir Cohen-Avidov (Likud) a democratic ethic.

"The fact that the attorney-general has to advocate legislation in defence of the principles of democracy is testimony to the fall in standards. A proposal has been tabled to reduce the immunity of parliamentarians, owing to the abuses of Kahane."

"A poll in Ma'ariv reports that if

elections were held today, that man would get two or three seats." Eban observes gloomily. "Young school-children openly opt for the expulsion of Israeli citizens (stone-throwing Arabs) from the land." These manifestations, although coming from a minority of the Jewish population, stand in stark contrast to the humanistic ideals given out as official policy at the time of Israel's birth.

He refers to the growth of religious fundamentalism, stating that the ultra-Orthodox do not accept the evolution of Jewish thought - they believe in revelation. His *Heritage* series on the history of the Jews is now appearing on American television and attracts, according to the Nielsen ratings, 20 million viewers every night, the vast majority of them gentiles. "The Jewish community is rhapsodic," says the series' narrator. "There has never been such an opportunity of presenting a picture of the forces that have moulded Jewish history right up to and including the Zionist fulfilment. Yet certain Orthodox circles - not all - take issue with this programme. My interpretation is based on facts unearthed by archaeologists and historians. That is irrelevant in their view."

Eban notes that the Orthodox quarrel with his theory that the biblical writings show a development from nationalistic to universal concepts. They see his commentary as a stab in the back of Judaism.

"Their view is in fact absolutist. They don't say they disagree with me; they dismiss me as another Antiochus Epiphanes (the man who erected a statue of Zeus in the Temple)."

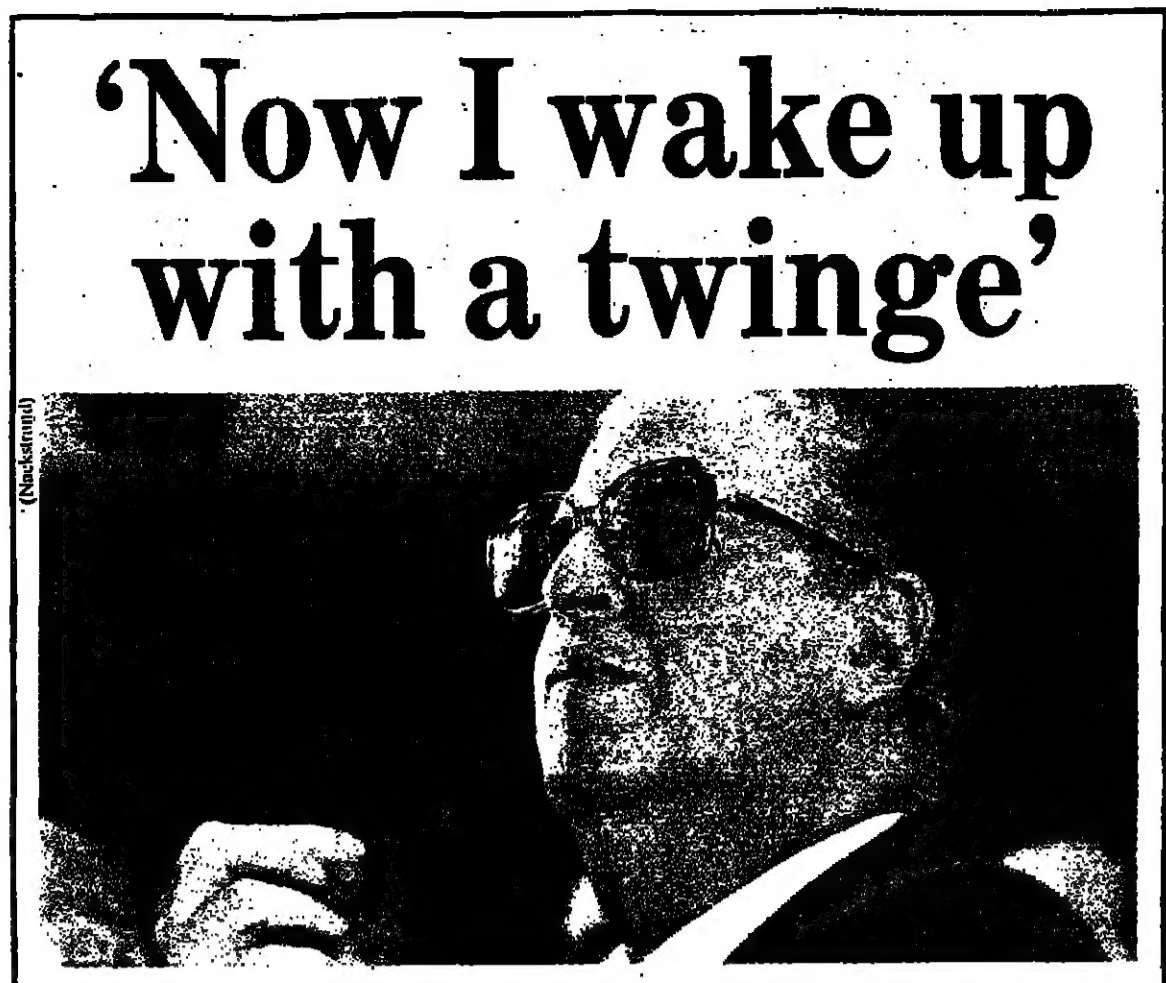
"This absolute certitude makes me think of Disraeli's comment on Gladstone: 'I wish I was as sure of anything as he is sure of everything.' Eban points out that intolerant dogmatism has been a destructive force in Judaism through the ages. "We lack - to use an excellent phrase I found in *The Jerusalem Post* - a 'culture of dissent.' We don't know how to react to people who disagree with us."

In his TV series, he produces at one point Baruch Spinoza's certificate of excommunication. "The religious authorities abominated his opinions. They pronounced him cursed by day and by night, cursed when he lies down and when he rises up, cursed when he goes out and when he comes in."

"In this age the Jewish Theological Seminary would categorize him as a middle-of-the-road Conservative rabbi."

"A poll in Ma'ariv reports that if

Abba Eban MK talks to The Jerusalem Post's David Krivine



THE LAST five or six years have been something more troubling still, a combination of political and religious fundamentalism. He equates the change with the period of Likud rule. This "extremist thinking," he says, contains "a desire for the absolute; a rejection of compromise; a delegitimization of dissent."

"The fundamentalists believe that our rights as a people supersede all other rights and have to be asserted unequivocally, not harmonized with the rights of others. This is the worst legacy of the Likud regime."

"The theme of infallibility has taken hold," he says.

Don't the pronouncements of Rabbi Moshe Levinger have some sort of theological sanction? Eban shakes his head. "Judaism is a compassionate faith. People like Levinger ascribe to Jewish sources the idea of expulsion, of bellicosity, of the death sentence, of saying that everything is ours. You know, I've never heard a genuine talmudic scholar adopt that tone."

He sees present-day Israel as being "like a school where the strong-arm bullies are in fashion, and those who prefer humane behaviour are looked down upon."

"I have hopes that we are beginning to pass all that. There is a change of leadership - and experience suggests that public opinion is more influenced by government than the other way round. I am more optimistic about the national unity cabinet than I was."

"Prime Minister Peres said last week that the national style has altered. It's true. The forcible incorporation of territories is no longer an integral part of government policy. You can argue against it without contravening the official line. It is not an aberration any more to include among our options the possibility that we might have to give up something."

What of those who say that with Jewish settlements scattered over

the occupied areas, the Allon plan has been made obsolete? Eban finds "such premature defeatism depressing. Meron Benvenisti has churned out the idea that all hope is lost, that we are faced with a *fait accompli*. One way of losing a cause is to pretend that it is lost, people who believe that the situation in the territories is irreversible are unintentional allies of the annexationists."

"There are in the administered zones 1.3 million Arabs and 29,000 Jews. Since the Six Day War, the average increase in the Jewish population has been 2,000 per annum, and in circumstances (at least during the last seven years) totally favourable to growth."

Benvenisti says, suppose the figure grows to 100,000? Two factors militate against expansion. First, there is no money. As budgets dry up some of the settlers will find their way back, as likely as not to the homes inside the Green Line that they never gave up."

"Secondly, expansion depends on a favourable ideological atmosphere. That atmosphere existed under the Likud, but the first five years, Eban suspects, is running out of steam. He mentions the Jewish chauvinists now being tried for terrorist acts and the big *prise de conscience* inside Gush Emunim. Zevulun Hammer is torn by doubts; he has observed recently that national unity is more important than territorial unity."

"If new boundaries are drawn in a peace treaty, settlements on the wrong side of the line do not necessarily have to be dismantled. The frontier between France and Italy was changed after World War II. Yet people stayed where they were."

"Our objective must be to achieve an open border with Jordan, like the borders within the European community. There is free access between Israel and the West Bank, when we are not on negotiating terms with the

Jordanians. Is it reasonable that the achievement of a peace settlement should be a step back, restoring ghetto boundaries as prevailed under the 1949 Armistice Agreements?"

Could the offer of a Jordanian-Israeli condominium over the disputed areas be a substitute for territorial concessions?

Eban looks faintly surprised, as if the subject has never come up for serious discussion. He dismisses the idea as far-fetched. "I think the Jordanians would prefer no share in the West Bank than to share it with us." His faith still remains in some kind of topographical compromise.

ON THE war in Lebanon, he sees the total result as negative.

"The purpose was to save lives on Israel's northern frontier. All that we have done is substitute a new enemy for the old. Instead of the PLO, we now face the hostility of the Shi'ites."

He rejects the idea that the PLO army in Lebanon was a spearhead for a possible Arab war against Israel. "That is like saying 'couldn't Denmark be the spearhead of a war against the Soviet Union?' The best service we can do to the PLO is to exaggerate their power. To portray them as a potential destroyer of the Jewish state is to pay them a tremendous compliment."

"What did Arafat's panoply amount to? Fifteen thousand men with Katyushas. Not a single plane, not a single missile. I tell you, we are so used to being the underdog over the ages that we have become schizophrenic. We have the reality of power and the psychology of vulnerability."

"All that we needed was achieved in the first four days of the Lebanese incursion. There is a Jewish saying, *Tafuta merube lo tafuta*, which can be roughly translated as, 'You try to grab everything and end up with nothing.'

"The greatest witness to that is Menachem Begin himself. I have spoken with people close to him, and I get the impression that his sudden retirement was due to his realization that things had gone awry, that events had got out of control. It's a Shakespearean tragedy."

LABOUR HAS SHED its left wing with the departure of Mapam. The Likud has shed its right wing with the emergence of Tehiya. Have the two big parties moved towards the centre? Has the Likud become more moderate?

"The Likud are less flamboyant in style but remain uncompromising. I have never heard any statement coming from Yitzhak Shamir or Moshe Arens that is different from the views of Arik Sharon and Tehiya. If Labour is becoming more tolerant of the Likud, perhaps that is a bad sign."

Eban is to the left of Shimon Peres, and some attitudes of right-wingers within his own party displease or even shock him. "Arye Nehamkin (minister of agriculture) went along with the lobby that is campaigning for milder treatment of Jewish prisoners accused of terrorism. That is unforgivable."

Eban looks at the general picture: "The split with Mapam is not permanent, I hope only conjunctural. The present situation is after all against nature. I'm told in the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that David Magen and Eliahu Ben-Elissar (of Herut) are my friends, and that Victor Shemtov (of Mapam) is my enemy." He smiles at this absurdity.

But he does not dismiss the Peres-Shamir coalition as a lost cause. "The government has a chance of progress on three fronts. First, economic recovery. There will have to be irksome restraints and disciplines. The advantage of a national unity administration is that neither of the two big parties can blame the other for the hardships created."

"Second, Lebanon. Both parties agree that we must disengage. Third, parliamentary reform. There is a consensus on the need for change in the electoral system." He notes that Yitzhak Shamir served as prime minister of an established government supported by a majority of Knesset members. "All that was brought tumbling to the ground at the quirk of three Tami members."

He favours Gad Ya'acobi's bill, which is a mixture of the Israeli and British systems. "Or, at least we should raise the minimum percentage qualifying a party for representation. We must get rid of freak candidacies like Kahane's."

THE LACK of aliyah, he says is the most disappointing development in

Jewish life today, the greatest Zionist failure. "If we had 4.5 million Jews living here instead of 3.25 million, everything would be different."

"The proneness to stay in exile," he says "is not something new. We haven't any record that the Jews in ancient times came back from Babylon. They sat and wept when they remembered Zion, but they did their weeping in Babylon."

"It is perhaps not surprising that people inhabiting liberal countries find it hard to uproot themselves. But that Jews under pressure - in Iran, Argentina, the Soviet Union - leave the country of their birth for a new exile, a new Dispersion, that is perplexing."

He offers the comment that the Jews are a contrary-minded people; they don't do what is expected of them.

"Look at our renunciation of Sinai to the Egyptians. As long as the enemy used force, Israel clung to the territory with obstinacy. Once President Sadat took up the soft approach, we melted like butter in the sun."

Leaving banter aside, the former foreign minister looks grave.

"My chief source of melancholy is this: are we the last generation to keep the Jewish heritage alive?"

The movement away from Zion parallels a movement away from Jewish tradition and culture, and this thought in part spurred him to write the *Heritage* programme.

Israel's need for replenishment of manpower, he says, is greater than her need for money. "If there is choice between financial aid and immigration, we must opt for immigration every time - even though there does not have to be a choice. Should immigration rise appreciably, that would stimulate the mobilization of funds."

"Fund-raising is extremely valuable both as a contribution to the causes supported and as a symbol of solidarity. But it should be realized in all candour that although donations and investments have increased over the years in absolute terms, they have dropped as a proportion of Israel's foreign current budget."

"In the early days of the state foreign contributions came, \$100m, and that was 40 per cent of the country's foreign currency expenditure. Today contributions amount to \$600m - which comes to only per cent of our import bill."

"That is not an excessive contribution, considering what Israel gives to the Jewish people in return. At the same time we are helped to maintain universities and other institutions at a higher level than could otherwise be afforded. Our supporters owe seas supply - it might be said - cream in the coffee."



HELP THE HELPLESS

Dear Reader
Much has been said and written about the plight of the Ethiopian people. Last week I spent several days in the drought-stricken areas of Ethiopia, met with the representatives of various charitable organizations and officials of the relief and rehabilitation commission, set up by the Ethiopian government. I have seen the suffering of young and old, caused by the drought.

In the past, I have helped victims of man's inhumanity to man, in Biafra and Cambodia, and the victims of natural disasters in India, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and other parts of the world.

We are now trying to make one joint Jewish effort, supported by the Jewish communities of the diaspora, from Sydney, Australia, to Brooklyn, New York.

I know their needs, and we can make sure, as in the past, that the supplies reach their intended destination. Your contribution will be used to build a complete refugee camp, and provide what is needed now. Help us to help the helpless.

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Checking up on the doctors

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL / Jerusalem Post Reporter



Avraham Ravitz (Hendler)



Yehoshua Shaneberger (Hendler)

WHO IS the surgeon with the highest rate of success in multiple by-pass operations? What orthopedic surgeon has the highest number of successful mechanical joint implants or hip-pinnings? Which internist has the greatest success in managing post-coronary patients or diabetics? Who is the best fertility expert?

You can't get any of this information from your own doctor, nor will the Israel Medical Association be of help. But if you really want to know, then there's a pookish, russet-bearded rabbi with a swirling cassock and a much-activated beeper on his belt who can probably tell you.

Often referred to as the "health minister of the Haredi (ultra-Orthodox) population, Rabbi Yehoshua Shaneberger has what are probably the most detailed records in existence concerning the activities and the successes and failures of Israel's medical specialists.

Shaneberger works as a part of the Rafa organization, centered at the Or Sameach Yeshiva in Pnart Eshkol. Rafa is the acronym for *Rafu a pi Halacha* (Medicine according to Jewish Law), which was founded by a group of young rabbis in the mid-Seventies.

The organization was founded in response to a serious need, says Rabbi Avraham Ravitz, head of the Eshiva. "Things had gotten to a grubby state. The Haredi population had virtually stopped going to doctors in Israel. They went abroad if it was too bad."

Ravitz points out that this is against Jewish law. "We are obliged to seek the best possible medical advice. Halacha even prohibits a Jew

from living in a town where there is no doctor. Life is sacred.

"But there were," says Ravitz. "Both the doctors and the Haredi population were equally to blame. Something like that is never one-sided. And it was then that Shaneberger and others decided to do something about it."

SHANEBERGER STARTED visiting senior members of Israel's medical community. "They were surprised," says Ravitz. "They found a man with no horns, well-educated, who wanted to bridge this gap of confidence."

their own stereotype was as mistaken as the one the Haredi population had of the doctors.

"The Haredim aren't a bunch of primitive people whose mentality is suited better to witch-doctors than to modern medicine. The doctors learned that we were seeking good medicine. And we learned to trust them."

"Even our feelings about autopsy and abortion became points for legitimate debate rather than barriers to communication," says Ravitz.

But the greatest service the Rafa group did for the country at large was to change the attitude of specialists concerning professional consultation. "Israeli doctors were often insulted if the patient asked for a second opinion. In fact, the more prestigious the specialist, the more insulted he was."

"We explained to them that according to Halacha a Jew must, in any serious situation or when a treatment might be a matter of life or death, ask for a second medical opinion. Today, the specialists themselves initiate a consultation."

Shaneberger did not say too much during the interview, but the busy beeper he kept him in contact with doctors and patients all over the city. "Call Professor X... Mrs. A. has been taken from surgery to recovery... All is well... Professor J. doesn't think Mr. K's child needs surgery..."

And Shaneberger, the man the Haredi population trusts to look after them when they are ill, nodded, made notes, consulted with his co-worker Rabbi Eliezer Cain, and filed away the information.

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Jerusalem Christian Assembly, YMCA auditorium, 26 King David St. Tel. 723968; Sunday evening 7:30 p.m.

TEL AVIV
Reformed Church (Lutheran) Tel Aviv-Yafo, 15 Rehov Beer Hofman (near 17 Rehov Eilat) Tel. 620654. Saturday's Service 11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at 10 a.m.

HAIFA
Eilat Church (Lutheran) Haifa, 43 Meir Street. Saturday Service 11 a.m. Tel. 04-525581.

OTHER CENTRES
Baptist Village Congregation, 2 km. north of Petah Tikva. Saturday Service, Bible study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Tel. 052-32833.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS (MORMON CONGREGATIONS)
Jerusalem: 58 Nabhis Road (next to the Ambassador Hotel), Tel. 02-515294. Tel Aviv: 27 Shevet Menashe St., Herzliya, 02-77756. Galilee: 15 Shlomo Hamelech St., Tiberias, 067-92261. Worship Services each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12.

Notes are accepted for this column, appearing every Friday, at a rate of \$2415 per line, including VAT. Publication every Friday over a period of a month costs \$1745 per line, including VAT.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: French Hill, 23 Hagahana, 810955. Balaam, Salah Eddin, 272315. Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108. Dar Al-Kawa, Herod's Gate, 282258. Tel Aviv: Yehuda Hamaccabi, 42 Yehuda Hamaccabi, 451198. Sech Dov, Tochnit Lamed, 428510. Netanya: Herod's Gate, 24 Herod's Gate, 222429. Haifa: Gula, 12 Hermon, 640466.

SATURDAY
Jerusalem: (day) Koper Holim Clinic, Romema, 525191. Balaam, Salah Eddin, 272315. Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108. Dar Al-Kawa, Herod's Gate, 282258. (evening) Shaare Zedek, Bayit Vega, 525592. Tel Aviv: Yehuda Hamaccabi, 42 Yehuda Hamaccabi, 451198. Sech Dov, Tochnit Lamed, 428510. Netanya: Near Shalom, Ezerim Commercial Centre, 52484. Haifa: Mezer, 37 Hamagim, 524113.

SATURDAY
Jerusalem: Dr. Haim Holim (pediatrics, gynecology, Hadassah E.K. (internal, surgery, E.N.T., orthopedics, ophthalmology). Tel Aviv: Rosh (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery). Netanya: Laniado (obstetrics, internal, surgery, pediatrics, gynecology).

FIRST AID

Magen David Adom emergency phone numbers (round the clock service):
Ashdod 41333
Ashkelon 23333
Bat Yam 525595
Beer Sheva 78333
Carmiel 988555
Dan Region 781111
Eilat 72333
Haifa 512233
Holon 80333
Jerusalem 523133
Kfar Saba 44442
Kiryat Shmona 44334
Netanya 923333
Peta Tikva 923111
Ramat Gan 51333
Ramat Hasharon 94333
Safed 30333
Tel Aviv 240111
Tiberias 90111

"Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area around the clock. 101 Emergency phone number in most areas. Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 23-8191, Jerusalem - 810110, and Haifa, 28791.

"Eran" - Mental Health First Aid, Tel. Jerusalem 609911, Tel Aviv 253311, Haifa 528888, Beer Sheva 481111, Netanya 55316. For information on Battered Women Shelters call Family Violence Service - 03-231675, 235922 or any of the Rape Crisis Centre or Eran hot lines.

DENTAL

Tel Aviv: Dental Association clinic 49 Bar Kochba St. Friday: 6 p.m. to midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tel. 03-284649.

Haifa: Dental Society clinic Sunday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 251993; Monday: 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Tel. 520313. Tuesday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 220985. Wednesday: 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Tel. 520313. Thursday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 220985. Friday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 525295. Shabbat: 8 a.m.-10 a.m. Tel. 251993. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. 525295.

Jerusalem Center for Drug Abuse and Misuse Intervention, Tel. 663828, 663902, 14 Beitlenheim Rd.

POLICE

Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias: Dial 524444. Kiryat Shmona 4444.

24-HOURS FLIGHT INFORMATION SERVICE
(multi-line)
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University Heads Committee

National Centre for Testing and Evaluation
for prospective registrants for the
1985/86 Academic Year

Thursday, November 22, 1984, will be
the last day of registration for the
inter-university psychometric
entrance examination

to be held on December 20, 1984

(The examination to be given in: Hebrew, English,
French and Spanish).
Registration forms and examination information
brochures are available at all university bookshops,
colleges and Steimatzky shops.

The early psychometric examination will help speed
up the university acceptance process for the
1985/86 academic year.

HITACHUT OLEI BRITANNIA

(British Settlers Association)

wishes to announce to all its members that the

Annual Conference

will start at 8 p.m.
on December 28, 1984
and will continue through
Sunday, December 30
at the Merkaz Klita Ra'anana.

For further details please contact your Branch
Chairman, or direct to: Stephanie Klinebar,
National Organizer, Tel. 02-255344, issued by
The Nat. Conference Committee.

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Villa in Herzliya Pituah

Loveliest spot of all, Ha'asheh St.

Luxury furnished villa for immediate rent.

Huge living room - dining room, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Fully air-conditioned, phone, 2 garages, also 3 tennis courts.

Available for short or long term lease. Call Aviva on regular working days, Tel. 03-571332, between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

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BOOKKEEPER

Full time, in pleasant environment. Working knowledge of English and Hebrew essential. To arrange an interview appointment, phone 02-811051, 02-811608.

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Vehicles

Cars for Sale

1300, 1983, 5 years, one owner. 03-32577, 03-63483.
Bargain, due to departure, Daihatsu 1000, automatic, 1983, 03-73215.
Daihatsu Charade, 1983, one owner, 13,000km., automatic, air conditioner, 03-90456.
Solar SX 1600, 1980, automatic, improved, 56,000, one owner, 03-27132, 03-410187.

ALFA ROMEO

Alfa Sud, 1983, 1200, air conditioner, excellent condition, bargain price. 03-453214.

AUDI

80CL 1300, 1982, one owner, gorgeous, kept as new, extras. 03-714282, 03-761869.

Audi 100, 1981, 03-542115; Audi 100, 1982, 03-543140.

80 1300, 1982, one owner, 29,000, 03-416882, 03-422787.

100CD, 1984, all extras, 03-334241, 03-427697, evenings.

80 CL, 1982, air conditioner, stereo, from Sunday, 03-334273.

80, 1300, metallic, 40,000, well kept, 1983, 7,900,000, 08-766355.

80, 1980, 1600, automatic, second owner, 50,000km., 03-655302.

80GL, 1983, air conditioner, stereo, possibly passport-to-passport, 03-715118.

Audi 80, 1600, automatic, 1982, 34,000km., Tel. 03-25708.

AUSTIN, MORRIS

Metro 1300, July 83, 15,000km., one owner, 03-261675.

AUTOBIANCHI

Computest: Yona Ben-David, Daniel Pe'er, the professional management which ran Dyanometer for 18 years. Computest, not Dyanometer - we're across the street.

Autobianchi, 1982, excellent condition, 25,000km., Tel. 03-449275.

Autobianchi 82, from retail, good condition, 982424, not Shabbat.

Autobianchi, 1983, one owner, 27,000km., 832710.

Elegant, 76, fourth owner, kept like new, year test, 03-856236.

B.M.W.

BMW 1502, 77, 80,000km., 6500, stereo, 03-99912.

315, from new immigrant, 1982, 90,000km., 03-419288, not Shabbat.

316, automatic, air conditioner, sun roof, 03-334241; afternoon, 03-416618.

316, 1984, personal import, 50,000km., metallic, 04-916839, 04-926660.

520, 1979, automatic, air conditioner, 7,000,000, possible exchange for newer model, 03-222925.

CITROEN

Via, December 1983, 11,500km., one owner, wonderful, 234133.

G.S.E. Pallas Compact, 1982, 38,000, one owner, 03-791339.

GSA Pallas 1983, 37,000km., 22,000, stereo, 03-310951, superior.

Station GS 78, second owner, from retail, bargain, 08-474238, 08-474730.

Via Super E, 1982, 30,000km., like new, 03-769912.

Via Super, 1982, 40,000km., one owner, like new, 03-449651.

Via Club, 82, one owner, low kilometers, Tel. 03-327571.

COMMERCIAL CARS

Import Motors, gears, axles and various parts for all types of trucks. Muskat Spare Parts, 03-406662, 51 Hamaelach, Hilon Industrial Zone.

Seaching 2 Fiat Fiorino taxis, 1980-1981 model, 03-61857 (Tippa), not Shabbat.

504 van, 1982, 27,000km., one owner, 03-332112.

Ford Transit, 1978, year test, 03-712981, work, 424647.

G.M.C. 2500, 83, automatic, additions, suitable for passengers, 03-27340.

Leyland Chiflain, 1967, 1000, parts possible, 03-81812, weekdays.

Passenger Transit 83, offers to Beit Hahaval, 2 Beit Hahaval, Beer Sheva, 057-77013, 057-76488.

Chevrolet van 1982, 08-223655, 08-30-16, 03-340895, evenings.

VW Golf van, 1984, 7,000km., 413737, work, 03-53366.

504, 1983, air conditioner, radio, year test, 03-825181, 08-458146.

Mack R 600 (double) + crane, 04-214728, 04-341974.

Peugeot van, 1983, 03-988377, work, 03-836945.

Peugeot van, 1983, mechanically excellent, 03-863263.

LANCIA

1300, 1983, one owner, bargain! (Exchange for inexpensive vehicle.) 03-91286.

Delta 1300, 1982, bargain, one owner, 240840.

Lancia, 1979, one owner. Call Moshe: 03-786113.

LORRIES

New truck + mixer and work in Israel's best company, almost no cash. 03-34323.

Mack R 600, tipper, double axle, 76 + 74, 057-71796, work.

D-500 truck, 1969, 955666.

Dodge diesel lower, bargain, 2-way radio equipment, 03-661336, 03-583563.

Mack tipper R611, 54 gear, 1982, 08-223655, 08-30-16, 03-340895, evenings.

Qualified masseuse, treatment at client's house, 155000. Tel. 03-453335.

MERCEDES

190E, 1984, extras, like new, 12,000km., 03-343444.

Diplomat is selling Mercedes 280SEL, 1984, nearly new, automatic, 17,000km., Details, call Saturday or Sunday, 03-334273.

Import! Gasoline engines for Mercedes and Golf, all types. Muskat Spare Parts, 03-406662, 51 Hamaelach, Hilon Industrial Zone.

From disabled, Mercedes 200, 1981, automatic, excellent, one owner, 04-225982, Saturday, 04-669005, weekdays.

From disabled, Mercedes 200, 1981, automatic, excellent, one owner, 04-225982, Saturday, 04-669005, weekdays.

Audi 80, 1600, automatic, 1982, 34,000km., Tel. 03-25708.

OPEL

Ascona, 1983, automatic, extras, special, 03-526237, 03-52461, work.

Computest: computer vehicle testing. Computest gives 6-month certificate of guarantee for any vehicle. 330632.

Kadent GLS, 1984, 1200s, personal import, 03-769294.

Ascona 1300, 1981, Hahofel, 03-70851, for Dada.

Ascona 1983, unique, 1600-5, automatic, air conditioner, 03-26621.

Ascona 1983, unique, extras, radio, tape, 03-851370.

Kadent 1984, 5 years, personal import, extras, 03-851370.

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Kadent 1984, 5 years, personal import, extras, 03-851370.

Jerusalem

Cars for Sale

504, automatic, 1982, 47,000km., 249382, 660378.

Alfaud, 1200-3, 1982, 30,000km., 03-236222, work, 531439, evenings.

Alfaud, 1982, one owner, excellent, 523690, work, 249470.

Alfaud, 1982, one owner, 44,000km., one owner, 03-43264.

Ascona, 1984, luxurious, one owner, metallic, 17,300, 71958, 664676.

Audi 80, 1600, GL, automatic, 1982, one owner, 03-877397.

Audi 80, 1982, 1600, automatic, bargain price! 41701.

Audi Allegro, 64,000km., 03-244963, 03-223655, 08-30-16, 03-340895, evenings.

Audi Metro 1300 S, 1982, 22,000km., 712954, evenings.

Bargain, for new immigrants, Fiat Fiorino, 1983, like new, extras, 03-853767.

Bargain! Fiat 128, 1300, 150,000km., one owner, 1978, 03-71098.

Beetle, 1971, one owner, 59,000, rare condition, 02-26411-2, 2v.

Clown GS C-matic, 1978, excellent condition, 02-71282, not Shabbat.

Citroen Pallas JR, 4, semi-automatic, 1983, 8,000km., like new, 04-66252.

Closed van, Simca Talbot, 1981, 03-714444.

Citroen station, automatic, 1600, 1982, 45,000, one owner, 666335.

Daf, 1973, automatic, economical, overhaul test, 40,000, 03-417328.

Fiat 1300, 1970, good condition, 923199, Saturday.

Double cabin 83, 28,000km., 03-573761.

Golf, 1600-5, automatic, 1976, private, new tyres, excellent, 03-393500.

Jetta, 1982, automatic, air conditioner, one owner, 39,000km., 03-291504.

Peugeot station, 1982, automatic, from disabled, like new, 03-281168, 04-931386.

Peugeot 1600, 1982, automatic, one owner, from disabled, 03-428487.

Transporter 1982, like new, 42,000, windows + original seats, 03-20120.

Golf 82 1300-5, one owner, 40,000km., 03-902079.

Polo, 1981, well-kept, excellent condition, new tyres, 836954.

Transporter 1984, automatic, air conditioner, 40,000km., 03-385049, not Shabbat.

THE JERUSALEM POST

Mevoasser Zion, 2 + phone, solar boiler, heating, possibly furnished. 02-542466.

New Yavok, centre, 3, well-arranged kitchen, immediate. 02-851489.

New Givat Mordechai, 3 + phone, heating, 3300. 031910, 664326.

Old Talpuz, 4, 2nd floor, heating, immediate, also 3 1/2. 02-633371.

Ramat, 2-story cottage, 5 rooms, view. 02-667325.

Ramat, 3, phone, 165, 03-940180.

Two flats, 1-room furnished, Beit Hakarem; 4, Baka. 661450.

For elderly Armon, new luxury flat, long-term. 02-413449.

Armon Hanatziv, 3 + phone; Ramat Eshkol, 4, furnished, phone. 240813.

Armon Hanatziv, 3 1/2, well-lit, phone, cupboards, solar boiler, \$180, immediate. 620102, 17-30-20.00.

Baka, immediate 31/2, phone, quiet location! 02-249494, 02-812789.

Bargain! Shimon, 3 1/2 + heating, phone, possibly furnished. 02-639467.

Bavil, 4 rooms, phone, double cupboards. 02-382996, 02-56479.

Beit Hakarem, 3, ground floor, garden, quiet; Ramat Eshkol, 3, lift, both with phone and for long term. Capital, 02-552131.

Beit Hakarem, Mevoasser, new prestigious cottage, phone. Zimuti, 221451-4.

French Hill, unfurnished, long term, keys at Michael Starr. 223017, 241367.

Givat, 4, phone, solar boiler, balconies, 3rd floor. 433447, evenings.

Givat, 41/2 + dinette, phone, 2nd floor, balcony. 232141, 233114.

Givat Hamivtar, 3 + garden, 320; Kiyat Shimon, 21/2, partially furnished, 210. Elgar. 340703.

Givat Hamivtar, 3, furnished, short term. Tovia Bler. 226231, 241367.

Givat Oranin, 4 new, high standard, cupboards, phone. And and Associates. 02-690263.

Kiyat Moshe, 4; Ramat Eshkol, 3; Katamon, 3; Ramat, cottage. A.Yash. 240812, Maldan.

Margalit Yavneh, 41/2, rental, phone, partially furnished, immediate. Keys at P.N.M. 232335.

Masada Adumim, 3 rooms, phone, garden. 02-622035.

New Gilo, 3, phone, heating, 1st floor. 02-417986.

North Talpuz, 3, phone, partially furnished. 02-430361, evenings.

Only at Pirsum Heviva, 13 Dorot Rishonim, selection and bargains and advertisements for Lush Heviva!

Palmah, 4; Kat Tet BeNevezer, Ramat Eshkol, Pat. 3 1/2. 02-249315, 02-765751.

Rabi Meir, 21/2, 3 1/2, furnished, phone, balcony. Moshin, 21314-5.

Ramat Eshkol, 3 + dinette, phone, 2nd floor. RINOT, not Shabbat.

Ramat Eshkol, 4, unfurnished, with phone. Keys at Michael Starr. 223017, 241367.

Ramat, 41/2, storeroom, new, 1st floor. 02-884402, 02-222121-246, 02-418478.

Rehavia, 3, 2nd floor, cupboards. Avi Cohen, Maldan, 233125, 228922.

Rehavia, 2 large + phone, Tovia Bler. 226231, Maldan.

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Co-L PAYMENT

workers will be compensated by only a 13 per cent wage increase rather than the 19.4 per cent rise they would otherwise have received.

According to the Central Bureau of Statistics, retail prices in the last week of October were up by some 10 per cent over the monthly average. Thus, even had the price freeze come earlier, and been total, November's inflation would have still been some 10 per cent. In addition, some prices rose just prior to the price freeze. On this basis, treasury officials forecast a 20 per cent inflation for November.

There were large price increases during October in almost all the items affecting the CPI. The sharpest rises were in the prices of fruit and vegetables, up 30.5 per cent; clothing and footwear went up by 47.6 per cent. Both figures were heavily influenced by seasonal factors.

Housing prices rose by only 17.6 per cent. But over the past 12 months housing prices have kept

step with the general average.

October food prices rose by 28.6 per cent, home maintenance by 25.4 per cent, furniture and house appliances by 24.3 per cent, health services by 20.2 per cent, education and entertainment by 24.4 per cent, and transport and communications by 25.8 per cent.

Commenting on the CPI figure, Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kassar said last night that the package deal had been a "risk," but that the alternative of no agreement had been a lot worse. "If the government supplements the package deal with a comprehensive economic programme, we should see some change," he said.

Several examples of October net salaries of a man whose wife does not work compared with net salaries for November:

October (shekels)	November (shekels)
86,220	97,429
126,797	143,001
216,347	244,532
308,047	342,567
404,507	441,086

Haifa Flats

Eligibility certificates for young couples and flat owners at Bank Haifa. Details at Bank Haifa branches.

Detached house, Carmel, \$39,000, 04-257792.

Sale, Danya Alef, large, luxurious villa + view, immediate. Sigon Samuili, 04-335343-5.

Tiberias, 2-family cottage, approx. 250sq.m., includes 2 room flat, separate entrance, garden, tiled roof, view of Kinneret. 02-231265, 02-813119.

Ramat Tiberias, new villa on pillars + approved plans for additional flat, charming view, 600sq.m. land, immediate. 067-24612.

2-2 1/2 ROOMS

Eligibles will receive mortgages with personal attention at Tel Aviv. Eligibility certificates available at all bank branches.

3-3 1/2 ROOMS

3 gorgeous view, air-conditioned, clipboards, expensive extras. 04-231663.

4 ROOMS & MORE

Alhiza, 5 in 2-floor, private central heating, storehouse. 02-447734.

Camel, central, quiet, 4 bedrooms + covered parking. Sigon Samuili, 04-335343-5.

On Rehov Hillel, flat, 4-5, in low building, for immediate occupancy. Campaign 5 rooms. 1547, 430,000, includes VAT, 30 day payment term: 4 rooms. 1542, 160,000, includes VAT, 30 day payment term. Y. Prikker and Associates Ltd. 6706, 6272.

5, Leon Blum, well arranged, view, 70,000, convenient terms. 04-88611.

5, Kiyat Sela, Alhiza, 140sq.m., spacious, 241541.

Central Carmel, 4, 120sq.m., 1st floor. 04-333174, 04-670739.

Flats for Rent

Alhiza, 3, dinette, phone, view. 252586, Friday, Saturday.

For rent, flat, Kiyat Tivon, Rehov Horev, 04-708268.

Carmel, 4, Reissman, 04-62611, ex. 1107, 04-82994.

Hagall, 2, phone, partially furnished. 1590,000, 04-347002.

Yeshayahu, 2, phone, refrigerator, cupboards. 5130, 93719, 83097.

Opposite Technion, 3 furnished, phone, immediate. 02-812391, weekdays.

3 1/2, furnished, phone, Hadar, Ben Yehuda, 5190, 04-313334.

Shultz to keep his post

WASHINGTON (Reuters). - Secretary of State George Shultz has agreed to stay at his post in the second Reagan administration, his spokesman said yesterday. "The president has asked him to stay and he is honoured to do so," spokesman John Hughes told reporters.

But he gave no indication of the length of time that Shultz intended to remain at the State Department. Press reports have suggested he is unlikely to stay for all four years of the administration.

HIGH NOON IN AMMAN

By DAVID BERNSTEIN

NEXT THURSDAY, November 22, promises to be a major milestone in modern Palestinian history, signalling the final split of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) into two rival bodies, each seeking to present itself as the authentic voice of the Palestinians.

One will be headed by present PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, standing for Palestinian independence of decision and open to diplomacy as a legitimate means of achieving its nationalist goals. It will be composed almost exclusively of Arafat's mainstream Fatah, by far the most dominant group in the PLO as currently constituted.

The other will be headed by one of Arafat's Syrian-backed rivals. It will be almost entirely subservient to Damascus and will be totally committed to armed struggle as the only legitimate means of attaining Palestinian national objectives. It will be made up of the small, radical groups which are constituted in the present PLO.

DR. MATTI STEINBERG of the Hebrew University, leading authority on the PLO, believes that this will be the inevitable outcome of next week's meeting in Jordan of the 384-member Palestine National Council, the Palestinians' "parliament-in-exile" and their top decision-making body.

Arafat's decision to call the meeting in Amman, over the vociferous protests of all his opponents—including the leaders of the two largest opposition groups, George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Nayef Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Li-

beration of Palestine (DFLP)—is a clear indication, according to Steinberg, that the PLO chief has decided to confront Syria head on and force a decision on just who controls the PLO: Damascus or the Palestinians.

Both Habash and Hawatmeh have in the past been committed to the principle of Palestinian independence of decision, and in the name of this principle, stood by Arafat in Lebanon last year in spite of Damascus's efforts to get them to support the Syrian-backed rebellion against him—this, despite their strong disagreement with Arafat's policies and fundamental sympathy for many of the demands being put forward by the rebels.

IT WAS THIS, more than anything else, that averted a major split in the PLO at the time, with the rebels winning a major military victory over Arafat in Lebanon, but unable to translate this into a political victory at the level of Palestinian national politics.

Habash and Hawatmeh were able, however, to extract a price for their support, forcing Arafat to agree to a significant reduction in his authority in favour of a more collective form of leadership—ironically, one of the main demands put forward by the rebels.

In return, they agreed not to impede Arafat's efforts to convene the Palestine National Council and map out the PLO's future strategy now

that it has lost its base in Lebanon.

But Habash, notes Steinberg, has since had cold feet. Having failed to convince the other opposition PLO groups to attend, he is now unwilling to distance himself from this so-called National Alliance of Syrian-backed organizations by responding to Arafat's call—particularly, Steinberg points out, in view of his apparent assessment that Arafat and his policies will win the support of a clear-cut majority in the PNC. So he is now attempting to torpedo the planned meeting or, failing that, to portray it as illegitimate.

Hawatmeh, on the other hand, is less concerned than Habash about a break with the National Alliance; he is more concerned about preserving the principle of independent decision—something that he would plainly be forfeiting by supporting Syrian efforts to block the PNC despite his and Habash's commitment to allow the meeting to go ahead.

BUT WHAT IS now causing Hawatmeh to balk, Steinberg suggests, is Arafat's insistence that the meeting take place in Amman rather than in Algiers, its original venue. To go to Amman, for Hawatmeh, would look too much like capitulation to, and endorsement of, Arafat's evolving

Jordanian nexus—something Hawatmeh opposes, no less than Habash.

This places the strongly Marxist Hawatmeh, probably the most rigorous ideologue in the PLO, in a cruel bind—possibly one deliberately engineered by Arafat to force him to commit himself, one way or the other. And he is still wavering. According to Steinberg's assessment, he will not show up in Amman next week.

UNLESS SOMETHING quite unforeseen happens in the next few days, the PNC will be meeting in Amman. Most observers, including Steinberg, believe that Arafat will have little difficulty in bringing together a two-thirds quorum, all that is needed to make the meeting legitimate and its decisions binding (the refusal of current Damascus-based PNC president Khaled al-Fahoum to call the meeting is a mere technicality that Arafat will easily manage to get around simply by signing up one-quarter of all PNC members in favour of the council convening.)

But Steinberg, unlike some other analysts, does not expect the meeting to take any dramatic decisions. On the contrary, Steinberg argues: Arafat will probably go out of his

way to prove that he remains committed to the existing PLO "consensus," and that the failure of the other groups to attend was based more on personal rivalry than on any deep difference with him on matters of principle.

He will attempt to portray them as responsible for any split in the PLO by staying away, and could possibly even go ahead and initiate the provisions for a more collective leadership as agreed with Habash and Hawatmeh. And he may even reserve seats for the opposition groups on the Executive Council, to be taken up by them should they so wish at some later date.

However, none of this will disguise the fact that what Arafat is in fact doing by going ahead with the meeting in Amman is to precipitate a final split in the PLO—and it is this, rather than any decisions taken, that will mark the 17th PNC as perhaps the most significant in the organization's history.

And what will result, Steinberg believes, will be two separate PLO's—the one more or less congruent with Arafat's Fatah, and the other comprising all the other, Damascus-based groups. It is highly likely, Steinberg predicts, that these groups will shortly call a conference of their own in Damascus, possibly under

the present chairman-Fahoum in a bid to underscore its claim to be the "legitimate" PNC.

The fight will then be on for the allegiance of the Palestinians. Steinberg has little doubt that Arafat's PLO will have the support of some 80-85 per cent of politically active Palestinians—including those in Jordan and the administered areas.

What is more, the split will greatly increase Arafat's freedom of maneuver, enabling him to take initiatives, possibly in conjunction with Jordan and possibly even Egypt, which before were inhibited by his concern to keep the PLO united.

All will not be plain sailing for Arafat, Steinberg cautions, noting that there is opposition to some of his policies even within Fatah—even though the entire top leadership of the organization is solidly behind him in his current confrontation with Syria. To some extent, the differences that have split the PLO will have become internalized in Fatah. But even so, Arafat's freedom for political maneuver will have been infinitely enhanced.

STEINBERG also does not rule out some rivalry developing between the two PLOs in the field of terrorism, with Arafat attempting to show that his openness to diplomacy does not mean that he has abandoned armed resistance as an alternative and sometimes even complementary strategy. This is more or less what

happened after Arafat's ouster from Lebanon earlier this year, when Fatah did claim responsibility for a number of attacks in Israel to demonstrate that it had not abandoned the field of armed resistance to the Syrian-backed rebels.

However, Steinberg points out, aware of the counterproductive nature of attacks on civilian in attempting to pursue a diplomatic strategy, Arafat is likely to direct any efforts in this direction at military targets—or at least to claim credit for such attacks.

Syria can be expected to greatly step up efforts to eliminate Arafat physically, and that the PLO leader is going to have to be even more security-obsessed than he has been in the past.

ALL IN ALL, it would appear that Israel is about to reap one of the long-delayed fruits of its June 1982 invasion of Lebanon—the final split of the PLO as a direct result of the crushing military blow it sustained in Lebanon.

It is by no means certain, however, that the split will significantly weaken the PLO. It could, in fact, even strengthen it by giving rise to separate organizations each of which will be much less inhibited in pursuing its preferred course of action against Israel.

The creature conceived in Lebanon two and a half years ago and about to be spawned in Amman could well turn out to be, from Israel's point of view, the latest incarnation of the mythical Hydra.

The writer is the Middle East Affairs Reporter of The Jerusalem Post.

A coherent Jewish system?

By DAVID MESCHELOFF



Yeshaiahu Leibowitz

(Aliza Auerbach)

MAY G-D GRANT Professor Yeshaiahu Leibowitz a full 120 years, and may He put the professor's ideas to rest as soon as possible. Zvi Kurzwil's recent presentation in *The Jerusalem Post* ("A Fiery Iconoclast," October 10), as clarified and corrected by Leibowitz himself ("Understanding and misapprehension," October 26), can surely be taken as an authoritative summary of Leibowitz's views.

Leibowitz presents certain Jewish ideas in clear outline, but he over-generalizes and oversimplifies to the point of distortion. Moreover, his argumentation is devious. For example, after writing "the decisive proof is not some text, against which some contradictory text can always be found," Leibowitz quotes from the Yom Kippur prayer book in an attempt to prove the correctness of his viewpoint "decisively." Truthfully, one can prove nothing about Jewish thought without referring to our classical texts. Yet straight thinking and honest relating to the facts are no less necessary.

I will try to remain true to these in the following brief analysis of the four major religious themes which dominate Kurzwil's summary of Leibowitz's "coherent system of ultimate significance":

Judaism—A Private Religion? Leibowitz notes that values must be clearly distinguished from needs. Since needs must be satisfied and are not subject to choice, they cannot bear value. Hence, he concludes, since a state is a necessarily secular institution intended to provide for human needs, it cannot bear any religious meaning and significance.

This conclusion is inconsistent with Jewish thinking. In Jewish life needs are constantly being made the bearers of religious meaning: witness, for example, the *mitzva* of preserving one's health, or the blessing recited after performing one's bodily functions. The logic of this approach is clear: since there is a tremendous variety of ways in which human needs may be met, no one specific way can be considered as a pure necessity. Thus it follows that the kind of "secular" state one chooses to establish and maintain, the goals pursued by that state, and the means it uses to achieve those goals are most definitely a matter of interest and value in Judaism. But more can be said: the Jewish state itself is a bearer of Jewish value.

Leibowitz contends that the state can be no more than instrumental in enabling the individual to meet the demands of religion. Yet many *halachot* indicate that the Jewish people is a corporate whole with a multi-faceted independent standing. Consider, for example, that the non-conformity of the Jewish people as a whole to any new rabbinic enactment results in its nullification. Or consider the prohibition against an individual's performing *mitzvot* in such a way as to cause the Jewish people to be disunited, or appear disunited, in the form of their service to G-d (Deuteronomy 14.1, interpreted by our sages as "Do not form splinter groups"). Then there are halachic responses referring to the need to take action of one sort or another in order to assure "the sur-

vival of the Jewish people." These could not be halachic categories if only the individual had a standing before G-d.

If Leibowitz aims to show that the state is not the bearer of ultimate value, i.e., that it is not G-d, then I believe no religious Jew will disagree with this obvious truth (although a secular socialist might). In their enthusiasm over renewed Jewish sovereignty in Israel, some may have indulged excessively in "worshipping" the state, but their error does not justify the equally mistaken opposite stand taken by Leibowitz.

In his opposition to the "entanglement" of religion and state, Leibowitz makes it a matter of principle that the coercive power of the state is inappropriate for enforcing laws of religious origin. Since he sees the service of G-d as pertaining to the individual (or to a committed group of individuals), Leibowitz concludes that "the state apparatus is neither capable of nor authorized to contribute to the service of G-d." This conclusion ignores the coercive power to enforce observance of *mitzvot* granted by Halacha to the state.

For example, Jewish law sanctions the use of the coercive authority of secular courts in matters of divorce, under appropriate circumstances (*Baba Mezia* 48a, *Even HaEzer* 134.9). A different example: Maimonides writes that the Messiah will, early in his career, coerce all of Israel to follow the Torah (*Hilchot Melachim* 11.4). And yet another example: the *Beit Din* is obliged to establish groups of supervisors of public morality, whose duty it is to search in parks and orchards during holidays and to assure that the revelry of men and women does not lead to immorality (*Orah Haim* 528.4).

These *halachot* and many more like them may not be to Leibowitz's liking. They are certainly not consistent with his thinking. But they are undeniably part of Halacha. So which will stand—the fact of what Halacha states, or Leibowitz's theory of the relation of the individual and the state in Jewish law?

Theocratic or Anthropocentric? Our knowledge of G-d's frame of reference is severely limited. We Jews affirm G-d's absolute transcendence of time, space, physical existence and physical qualities (including "power"). Yet as human beings we cannot perceive, or even imagine, anything that is not somehow "within" these dimensions, much less worship such a being. That leaves us almost completely in the dark about G-d.

One uniquely Jewish solution of this problem is to point to divine revelation as G-d's way of enlightening us as to how things appear from His position. In part we have been shown our nothingness from G-d's perspective; to attain some value we must serve G-d in the way we call Halacha, fulfilling G-d's will by meeting His demands. These are eternal facts for a Jew.

But this is only part of the picture.

The theoretical valuelessness of human beings in comparison to G-d is no longer relevant after revelation. The decisive proof of this is in the fact of G-d's imposing on us a host of obligations towards human beings, all based on the premise that they are made "in G-d's image"—that is, that G-d has given them a share of His intrinsic value. One cannot love G-d without first loving His human creatures. Indeed, without a minimal recognition of one's own self-worth as established by G-d at revelation, no service of G-d is possible.

In serving G-d by accepting G-d's anthropocentric orientation, attitude and relationship are crucial. It is not sufficient to fulfil *mitzvot* of this type purely on a severe "divine service" basis. Our sages point to the critical need for warm human relating in fulfilling such commandments as honouring parents (*Kiddushin* 31a), directing one's family in Shabbat preparations (*Shabbat* 34a), and others.

If Leibowitz's insistence on Judaism's theocentricity is aimed only at reducing the terrible egocentricity which some people try to pass off as religiously based, he is to be applauded. Indeed, human beings are to serve G-d, not only themselves. Jews must ask themselves "What service does G-d require of me?" and not "What do I get out of it?" But Leibowitz goes too far when he

suggests that a Jew, by thanking G-d for saving him from danger, is relating to G-d as if He were an instrument designed for achieving human ends. Would Leibowitz prefer that the Jew who has been saved say nothing? Halacha requires him to bless G-d. Leibowitz's view is not consistent with Halacha.

Only a view sufficiently broad to see both the anthropocentric and the theocentric elements in Judaism can appreciate the eternal significance of the words of the Psalmist: "What is man, that you are mindful of him...yet you have made him only a little less than divine."

Rational or Irrational? Leibowitz the physicist likes to think of himself as rational in his Jewishness. But just what is "rational" about serving a G-d who is absolutely transcendent? If the fact of revelation is supposed

to make this rational, one must ask whether such an event can itself be considered "rational" by any of the usual meanings of the word. And what is "rational" in the acceptance of the yokes of G-d's sovereignty and of His commands? Leibowitz correctly describes this as a "decision," that is, an act of will.

The limits of the rational should not surprise a contemporary physicist. Almost half a century has passed since Gödel proved mathematically that one can never know whether any logical system which includes even as little as the simple rules of arithmetic is free from internal contradictions. The day of insisting on founding a thought system purely on logic is gone forever. But what of it? There is no shame in accepting both the rational and the irrational, the mystical and the experiential, as legitimate, non-

competing complementary paths in the service of G-d.

Leibowitz's strict dichotomy between the rational and the irrational, like that between anthropocentrism and theocentrism, is misleading. These are not proper either-or alternatives; for Judaism encompasses both alternatives in each case. This synthesis of apparent contradictions is of fundamental importance in Judaism, as Maimonides knew when he quoted the verse "Serve Him in all your ways" (Proverbs 3.6). Human beings are partly made up of intellect, but mostly of other things, and ought to serve G-d with all that they are.

Halacha—the Essence of Judaism. What is the essence of a human being? The body? The emotions? The imagination? The rational? Maimonides answers clearly (Introduction to *Avot*): "All are essential parts of the human being, and each is characteristically human in its own way. Moreover, distinguishing between these 'parts' of the human personality is purely artificial, useful only for discussion and for diagnosis when something goes wrong with a person's total functioning. All the different aspects of the functioning human soul are part of an indivisible whole."

What is the essence of Judaism? Its Halacha? Its history? Its ethics? Its perception of the nature of the physical world? Its mysticism? Its emotional aspects? It would be wrong to single out any one of these. They are all parts of an integral whole which cannot function without all of them together. As in the human soul, these seem sometimes to be in conflict, and the conflicts must be resolved. Halacha is, indeed, the aspect which seems most often to reign supreme. In conflict with mystically based practices, for example, it rarely yields—but occasionally it does.

Leibowitz insists that historical events have little lasting impact on the religious consciousness of man, writes Kurzwil. Yet these events are one of the many legitimate ways in which G-d makes His voice heard to human beings (Deuteronomy 30, 1-10). Is it of no religious significance to try to hear G-d's "still, small voice"? Hearing that voice correctly and knowing how to respond to it can sometimes appear an impossible task. Leibowitz may fear that some will respond illegitimately by trying to abrogate even a single Halacha.

Yet rejecting the challenge of history outright, avoiding the problem rather than addressing it, is still a grave error.

Separating Judaism from science, and from ethics, is to misrepresent Judaism. It creates an emotional and intellectual compartmentalization which undermines Judaism by making it impossible to "serve G-d with all your ways."

There is a delicate interplay between Halacha and ethics. Long ago, halachists, recognized the inability of Halacha to deal in advance with all the possible variations and specific ethical problems which may arise in real life. Halacha only sets the limits beyond which one may not go and within which one can act, makes a small number of definitive demands, and then gives one a gentle nudge in the direction in which one should go and the attitudes one should adopt. That is why the Torah commands one "to do the right and the good" (see *Maggid Mishneh* on Maimonides, *Hilchot Shecheinim* 14.3). The total acceptance of Halacha does not free one from the daily struggle with problems of human existence, including ethical problems.

Leibowitz argues that a Halacha must be created to deal with the problems of the new Jewish state, claiming that the Halacha as it developed in the Diaspora had no opportunity to solve any problems similar to the political, social, economic, technological and military problems of the modern Jewish state. Leibowitz complains that this Halacha is not being created by those who are responsible for doing so. The facts dispute this claim. A vast amount of labour is yet to be done, but the first steps toward working on these problems have been taken in recent years.

The halachic literature of today relates in ever-growing proportions to problems of modern economy, technology, society, war and politics. Whoever is dissatisfied with the direction such halachic discussion takes would do best to study Torah and join the ranks of those debating the specific issues; no one other than our halachists is going to "create" the Halacha needed in a modern state.

We have many real problems to solve. Let us stop expecting unrealistic solutions. Let us not be misled by false dichotomies into simplistic and superficial thinking. Then, perhaps, and with G-d's help, we can make some real progress.

Rabbi Dr. Meschelloff is a mathematician and director of the Kotler Institute for Judaism and Contemporary Thought.

BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY

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THE JEWS have traditionally been a caring people, setting humanitarian standards for helping those in need. It would be easy and convenient for us then to believe that our needy young and our elderly are comfortably provided for. But the gap between Jewish tradition and present-day reality is widening.

Israeli society is aging. The elderly increasingly account for a greater proportion of the population. At the same time, a growing number of families with small children is slipping below the poverty line. Despite increasing need for services, government budgets are shrinking, and further large-scale cutbacks are forecast.

We have all heard so much about people in need, but let's try to imagine what it means, in everyday terms, to those who are the most vulnerable economically — pensioners, living on small, fixed incomes; children in government institutions or in foster care with low-income families; sick children sometimes spending months in a hospital ward. These people are among the many who look for help to *The Jerusalem Post* Fund.

Let us assume that the average gross wage today is about IS270,000 a month. The average monthly pension paid by the National Insurance Institute last month was IS44,148 to IS68,949, or approximately one-fifth the average salary. According to a recent Ministry of Energy estimate, the average Jerusalem family will spend IS40,000 a month to heat their apartments this winter. For pensioners, keeping warm may now be an "unaffordable luxury."

Many foster children live with families whose incomes are below the national average. If your family subsisted on an allotment of IS270,000 a month or less, would you even consider spending IS40,000 to buy your child or your foster child a bicycle or a construction toy for Hanukkah or Christmas?

The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund cannot provide a bicycle for the many children on our lists. But we can, with your generous help, give them something new and attractive for the holidays. With only five more weeks to Hanukkah, the Toy Fund progress totals still fall far short of meeting even our minimal goals. Please send your contribution today to *The Jerusalem Post* Toy Fund, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem, 91000.

The Forsake Me Not drive does not have scope to provide heating for all the country's needy elderly throughout the winter, but we supplement their means of staying warm and staying well in every way we can, be it through subsidizing dental clinics, enhancing and enlarging facilities in old age clubs, providing funds

Dealing with a harsh reality

By JUDIE ORON / Jerusalem Post Reporter



for laundry services for the bedridden and through many other worthwhile projects.

Only you can enlarge the scope of our relief activities. Help us make this winter warmer and brighter for the elderly. Send your contributions today to Forsake Me Not campaign, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem, 91000.

IS30,000 In loving memory of Judge Joseph Herstein - The family, Kiryat Ono, 1520,000 Dr. Ph. Glaser, Safed.
IS15,000 Anonymous, Jerusalem.
IS10,000 Zach Zach, Jerusalem, Anonymous.
IS5,000 Ramat Gan.
IS2,000 In honour of Grace and Heinz Umrath of Oosterbeek, Holland, on their 80th birthday - J.L. Slipper, Ramat Hasharon, Fritz Cohn, Nahariya, For Yehuda Adashi - His aunt Hilda Abrahamson, in honour of the coming 9th birthday of our beloved

grandson Yehuda Adashi A.A., Bnei Brak, Bronstein, Tel Aviv, Israel and Rhoda Traut, Zichron Yaakov, Anonymous, Hatzit W. and L. Weiner, Toronto, Canada, M. van der Hoop, Kiryat Ono, Anonymous, Jerusalem. In honour of our beloved grandchildren - Sava Gene and Saba Michael Kevethan, Givatayim.
IS4,000 Hal and Barry Hanukka to my grandchildren, Michael Roman serving with Nahal, and Danielle Roman studying at university in Johannesburg - Mrs. Ruth Balestra, Hadera, Anonymous, Pardes Hanna.
IS3,000 B.A. Ahmad.
IS2,000 G. Well, Netanya. In honour of all the grandchildren and for Grandpa's birthday - Esther and Shabtai Rosenne, Jerusalem.
IS1,856 In honour of Michael and Alisa Dasthefsky, Connecticut, from Aunt Baya - Baya Dasthefsky, Jerusalem.
IS1,847 In honour of the 50th birthday of Joe Isaac - Julie and Helen, Moshav Avshalom.
IS1,590 P.S. Gefen, Netshon.
IS1,200 In memory of my daughter Tamar who lost her life during the War of Independence, and of my husband Mordecai.
IS1,000 An anonymous grandpa - Hilda L. Heymann, Nahariya.
IS720 In honour of my grandchildren Robert, Andreas, Daniel and Ana Rosenberg (4 times hat) - Lorne Rosenberg, Jerusalem.
IS250 In honour of Matilda Brilove, who loves Israel - Anonymous, South Plainfield, NJ.
IS184.31 Peninsula Temple Shalom 8th and 9th grade classes, Burlingame, CA.
IS146.75 Theodor Gilissen, Amsterdam, Holland.
IS100 A. Kern, Brattvaag, Norway.
IS50 Irving and Gertrude Gefner, Los Angeles, CA.
IS36 In honour of our daughter and her husband, Emily and Shmuel Zarnagar - Saul and Rosalie Kottenbach, Woodmere, N.Y.
IS30 Sidney Kravitz, Dover, N.J.
IS25 From Michael in East Brunswick, NJ, and Hardeep in Monrovia, Liberia - Falecia Dinalal, East Brunswick, N.J.
IS20 Mary E. Dequiere, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
IS18 Louis Cutler, Long Beach, N.Y.
IS10 In honour of my dear friend Shirley Ascarson Wood - Audrey, Emanuel Kliman, Santa Barbara, CA, in honour of the birthday of Shoshana Tur-Sinai - Jeannette E. Werchow, Jerusalem, Mrs. George Dworin, Worcester, Mass., Frances and Hanaa Korman, Fairview, N.J.
IS9 In memory of Seth Zachary Ross, who never really got into toys - Herbert Ross, Tampa, FL.
IS5 Mr. M. Laita, Geneva, Switzerland, B.F. 1,200 Andy and Claire Krakowsky, Antwerp, Belgium.

New donations: 604,113
Progress totals: 2,509,470
US\$ 914.60
Bel Fr. 1,200

"FORSAKE ME NOT"

IS80,000 In honour of the 80th birthday of our dear sister, Ethel Goldberg (Cork, Ireland) - Larry and Ray, Nahariya.
IS60,000 Anonymous, Jerusalem.
IS54,000 Maria Rubina, Rishon LeZion.
IS50,000 In loving memory of Judge Joseph Herstein - The family, Kiryat Ono.
IS30,000 Anonymous, Tel Aviv.
IS20,000 Dr. Ph. Glaser, Safed.
IS18,018 In honour of my dear mother, Dora Bard, Austin, Texas, and our friend Mr. Bernard Sniderman - Mr. I. Berger, Jerusalem.
IS18,000 In honour of the 25th wedding anniversary of Kay and Jack Wolofsky - Their Schneiderman cousins, Herzliya, Pinhas.
IS15,000 Keren Zadaka, Ramat Gan, Anonymous.
IS12,000 Hilson and Bernice Binstein and family, Herzliya.
IS10,000 In loving memory of my father, Bernard M. Cohn - Anonymous, Ramat Gan, Worcester, Mass.
IS10,000 In memory of my dear parents

Rachel and Martin Sokolowsky - Shulamith Perahia, Anonymous, Herzliya. In memory of my mother, Marcelle Bader - Maureen Wessik, Ramat Gan.
IS7,500 In memory of our late sister-in-law, Marcelle Bader - Betty Gassakoff and Lorie Bader, Ramat Gan.
IS5,000 With gratitude - Gene and Michael Kevethan, Givatayim, Fritz Cohn, Nahariya, Marga Moral, Haifa, Bronstein, Tel Aviv, Bracha Amav, A.A., Bnei Brak, In memory of my late husband, E.B. - Mrs. Aliza Bahar, Haifa, Anonymous, Jerusalem, Israel and Rhoda Traut, Zichron Yaakov, In honour of Grace and Heinz Umrath of Oosterbeek, Holland - J.L. Slipper, Ramat Hasharon, M. van der Hoop, Kiryat Ono, Moshav Segal, Moshav Nahalal, In loving memory of two unforgettable friends, Jack Lave (Tel Aviv) and Leon Joffe (Paris), both formerly of Cairo - Mrs. Ruth Balestra, Hadera, Anonymous, Pardes Hanna.
IS2,300 A. Ahmad.
IS2,000 Gertrude Weil, Netanya, Edi, Tami and Danny Fuchs, Ramat Gan. In memory of our parents and to wish Berta a very speedy recovery - Esther and Shabtai Rosenne, Jerusalem.
IS1,818 In honour of Sylvia Dasthefsky, Philadelphia, and Avrami and Sandy Dasthefsky, Connecticut - Baya Dasthefsky, Jerusalem.
IS1,800 In honour of the 80th birthday of Joe Isaac - Julie and Helen, Moshav Avshalom.
IS1,500 Anonymous.
IS1,000 L. Heymann, Nahariya.
IS600 In memory of my parents, Heinrich and Milli Wittels - Lorne Rosenberg, Jerusalem, Loni and Aaron Levin, Netanya, E. and S. Rosenzweig, Netanya.
IS500 For mother's birthday (28th September) and wish for her for her parents, Abraham and Dina Rottman - Berta Nicolson, Ramat Gan.
IS10,000 Mrs. Alexander Ehrmann, New York, N.Y.
IS500 In honour of ASM, a *lanishet mesh* - Anonymous, South Plainfield, N.J.
IS300 In memory of our parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Kahn, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Werlow, for the recovery of Goldie Werlow of Saginaw, Mich., Carl Feldman of Scottsdale, Ariz. - Abe M. Kahn, Bay City, Mich.
IS178 Anonymous, Cimarron, Kansas.
IS146.75 Theodor Gilissen, Amsterdam, Holland.
IS100 N.N., Jerusalem, A. Kern, Brattvaag, Norway.
IS50 E. Abraham, Hongkong. In honour of our daughter and her husband, Emily and Shmuel Zarnagar - Saul and Rosalie Kottenbach, Woodmere, N.Y., Abraham and Florence Malin, Whitehouse, N.Y., In memory of my dear cousin, Herbert Gad Kornfeld - the Kuttner, Omaha, Nebraska, Irving and Gertrude Gefner, Los Angeles, CA, Lloyd P. Garin, Jerusalem.
IS36 Louis and Sandra Weisinger, Merrick, Long Island. In memory of our dearest Bubbi Sylvia Mendelsohn - Liban, Eric, Aurora and Livia, Haifa.
IS25 From Michael in East Brunswick, NJ, and Hardeep in Monrovia, Liberia - Falecia Dinalal, East Brunswick, N.J., Albert A. Feinman, Seattle, Washington.
IS20 Frances and Hanaa Gevrieli, Fairview, N.J.
IS18 Louis Cutler, Long Beach, N.Y., Mrs. G. Haiman, Mobile, Alabama.
IS10 Mrs. George S. Dworin, Worcester, Mass. In memory of my father Dr. Max Emanuel Cohn - Anonymous, Ramat Gan, Worcester, Mass.
IS10 In honour of the birthday of Shoshana Tur-Sinai - Jeannette E. Werchow, Jerusalem.
IS9 In memory of parents whose unselfish dedication and uncomplicated faith nurtured the American Diaspora - Herbert Ross, Tampa, FL.
DM300 In memory of my wife, Emma - Dr. A.H. Unger, Köln, West Germany.
CAN\$10 Mrs. Zaida Loontjens, Willowdale, Ont., Canada.

New donations: 215,626
Progress totals: 1,998,981
US\$ 117,741.75
CAN\$ 100
DM 300

All-important bridal test

TORA TODAY / Pinchas H. Peli

A RICH life, packed with strife and struggle with his God and his peers is now behind him. His faithful life companion Sarah passed away upon hearing that her long-awaited only son was laid on the altar as a sacrifice. Her heart broken, she could not hold out to see Isaac come down from the altar, alive and well.

Now Abraham "was old and well advanced in age." God blessed him with "everything." He was rich, respected, at peace with his God and his neighbors. One thing, however, was "eating him." Isaac, his son, was 40 and still single, and not without problems. Isaac was an introvert, a child who grew up in the shadow of powerful parents. Now his mother had died and he had experienced the trauma of the akeda (the binding on the altar), which could not have left him without psychological scars.

Abraham's heart's desire was to see his son settle down, marry the right woman and continue to build that family that would become a blessing to all nations and the witness to God's presence in this world. Abraham summons his faithful servant, "the elder of his house that rules over all he had." (The Bible does not disclose the name of this first matchmaker, but oral tradition relates that it was Eliezer, meaning: God-my-help.) The servant is entrusted with the responsibility of going to his "old country," to Mesopotamia, to choose a wife for Isaac.

Abraham also makes the servant take a solemn oath that he "shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell," nor should he allow Isaac to leave the land, even if this would mean that he might stay single indefinitely.

At that crucial point in his life, Abraham's thoughts go back to his country and kindred. He realizes the dangers inherent in a "mixed marriage" should his only son choose a wife from the people among whom he lives. Knowing too well the moral standards of his neighbors, the majority population, he fears his son might assimilate, and everything "the ideals and life-style he cultivated during long years of trials and tribulations" would all but vanish.

Two ultimate concerns occupy the mind of the Patriarch Abraham as he is about to leave the land of the living: securing a burial place for his beloved wife and the fear of intermarriage for his son. After that we hear no more of Abraham in the biblical story, but for the next 4,000 years those two concerns remain foremost in the minds of Jews in many a land. No matter how far removed a Jew may be from the ways of Jewish living, he shudders at the thought of his child "marrying out" and worries about being laid to rest among his own people. From the time of Abraham to this day, those

two concerns remain the last barriers against the tides of assimilation and disintegration, which constantly threaten the descendants of Abraham.

ELIEZER, the faithful servant appreciated the seriousness of his task. He is to select the right girl to become the life mate of Isaac in building the first Jewish home, which will embody the lofty ideas fostered by the fiery, God-intoxicated trail-blazer Abraham and embellished by the life of his son, who has already gone through the awe-inspiring experience of being offered as a sacrifice to God. How will Eliezer make sure that he makes the right choice, which will decide not only the future of the household of Abraham, but perhaps also the future of humanity, or at least a great part of it.

The story of Eliezer's delicate mission is told at unusual length in the Bible (Genesis 24:1-67). What made Eliezer decide at last that Rebecca was the right girl, the one "appointed" by heaven for his master's precious son?

He did not select Rebecca because "the damsel was very fair to look upon" (24:16). That may have helped, but it was not the decisive factor. He certainly did not select her because of her *yichus*, the family pedigree or status in the community. Apparently he was not too favourably impressed either by her father Beuel or her brother Laban.

What was important to him was to find out whether she was kind and compassionate. He prayed: "So let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink and I will give thee. And when she had finished, she said: I will draw for thee camels also, and (again) she hastened and emptied her pitcher into the trough and ran again unto the well."

This eagerness to be kind and helpful to a passing stranger made Eliezer decide that she would be best qualified to build the first home in which the ideals of Abraham will be practised and handed down from generation to generation.

Hayei Sarah (Genesis 23:1-24:67) is the Bible portion read on this Sabbath. Rabbi Peli is professor of Jewish thought and literature at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Fighting racism

By SHALOM LEVIN / Special to The Jerusalem Post

affiliated and non-affiliated bodies to follow suit.

An emergency circular despatched by FISE read: "We call upon all teachers' associations not to take part in this initiative, since participation will be construed as support of the conquest of Jerusalem and the other territories and will be exploited by Israel and the media as support for this policy...in accordance with the General Federation of Palestinian Teachers and the Federation of Arab Teachers, we call for the boycotting of this initiative." The Arab teachers association applied similar pressure.

In spite of these moves, however, the Tel Aviv conference attracted 268 representatives from 36 teachers associations in 29 countries.

The Tel Aviv conference called

upon the teachers of the world to stand firm against racism and anti-Semitism, urging them to see their goal as educating their pupils to love peace, strive for equality and respect all men. It also recommended the preparation of special educational material and seminars for teachers on the subject.

THE FOUR YEARS since the first international conference have seen several of its recommendations implemented. Its debates have been published in English, German, French and Hebrew and circulated worldwide in 5,000 copies. An anthology for teachers and pupils aged 11-16 has appeared in four languages, providing reading and teaching material in story and song. Copies will be distributed at the

Amsterdam conference this week. Organizations which participated in the first conference have held seminars dedicated to the issue of racism and anti-Semitism in their own countries, and in Israel a special group of educators concerned with the subject has been formed.

And, of course, a major result of the Tel Aviv conference was the decision to hold this week's conference in Amsterdam.

The political power wielded by teachers associations in democratic countries must be mobilized in the battle against racism and anti-Semitism. In the U.S., especially, the National Education Association (NEA) constitutes an important electoral factor, which can aid the election to both state and federal office of candidates who will pledge themselves to the fight against racism and anti-Semitism.

Two important ways in which teachers associations internationally can spearhead the battle are by removing from the system any teacher found preaching racism or anti-

Semitism to pupils and denying him or her the protection of his professional organizations; and setting up a network which will expose any incident of anti-Semitic propaganda or any institution found to contain the germs of anti-Semitic or racist influence.

The writer is president of the *Histadrut Teachers Union*.

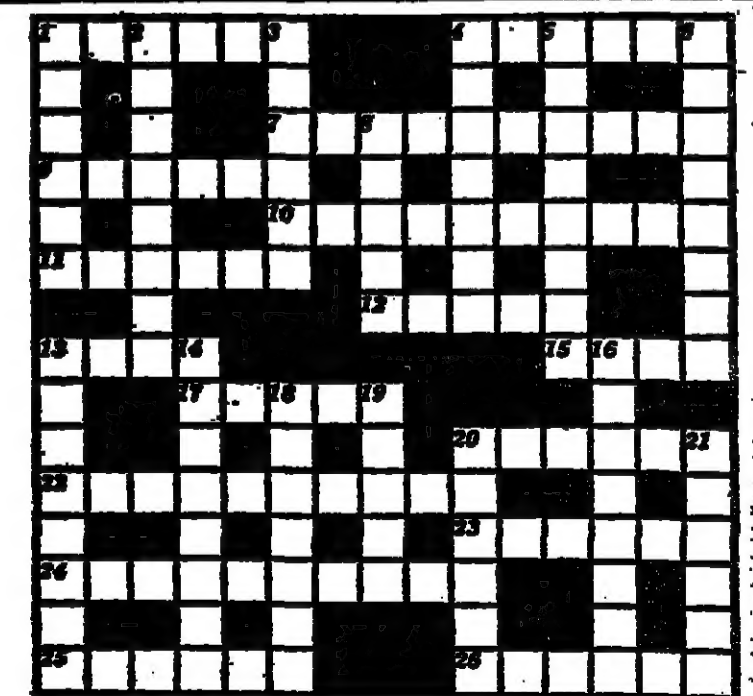
TWO-IN-ONE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Machines, like men, work! (8)
- 4 Back in the field, directly—there's a puzzler! (6)
- 7 In the dark about the sick-room (5-5)
- 9 Be last out to find supporters of food (6)
- 10 An instrument in a sense! (5-7)
- 11 Goes up under fire—fast (6)
- 12 Tyre people's business associate? (5)
- 13 Very low cunning (4)
- 15 Smile, getting the king in a trap (4)
- 17 People after this dead-head rushed along (5)
- 20 Made an imitation fish pie in it (6)
- 22 Worries on musical instrument that doesn't play? (5-5)
- 23 Give someone a hurt back, as it were? (6)
- 24 Heavy, date's arranged! Bring rescue just in time (4, 5, 5)
- 25 They stop water running on fruit (6)
- 26 Nothing but a circle of mathematicians? (6)

DOWN

- 1 University elects him chief (8)
- 2 Eaten out of house and home (6)
- 3 Sinks our lighter this time! (6)
- 4 Let the enemy come forward! (7)
- 5 Beating one of the band! (8)
- 6 Frequently called when no one's in the office! (8)
- 8 Blood on a pole injures a bull-fighter maybe (6)
- 13 Lacking in respect (8)
- 14 Must show proof of accuracy before being allowed to finish work! (6)
- 16 In a state, running from the police (6)
- 18 Understand it's to become popular (5, 2)
- 19 Ate food, inedible? Only some of it (5)
- 20 Made to draw study with a beam inside (6)
- 21 Imagined red meat carried out East (6)



'Quickie'

ACROSS

- 1 A churchman (6)
- 4 Small, goat-like flies (6)
- 7 Sailed by sea robbers (6, 4)
- 9 To flourish (6)
- 10 Type of butterfly (3, 7)
- 11 They adore each other (6)
- 12 Eg. wait at table (5)
- 13 Boys (4)
- 15 Dispatch (4)
- 17 Humped beast (5)
- 20 Furniture (6)
- 22 Stagey (10)
- 23 A severe trial (6)
- 24 Pushes tightly together (10)
- 25 A suit in cards (6)
- 26 Change the direction of (6)

DOWN

- 1 Weapon (6)
- 2 Got better (8)
- 3 Gets smaller towards one end (6)
- 4 Bullfighter (7)
- 5 Does not enjoy (8)
- 6 Provided (8)
- 8 Travels on bus, etc (5)
- 13 Networks of crossed bars (8)

- 14 Thrown away as obsolete (8)
- 16 It's given in court (8)
- 18 Business amalgamations (7)
- 19 Touches with the tongue (5)
- 20 Shut (6)
- 21 Not making a sound (6)

Yesterday's Solutions

CROSSWORD
X N A T I O N C E
C H E N I L E T A U N T
H U S E B A L C H E A D E D
U R U S V A H A U
M A C C O F C O E
W A T C H M A N F L O R I N
I O S C V T
N O D D E S B U D D E R S
G A Y E A R E A R
B A N A S K I N A R E A
I A R V S H L O
R U M B A L O T H A R I O
D I C U L E
S C R A M I N G F A R C E

Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Pay in, 4 Guessed, 8 In reply, 9 Torso, 10 Annual, 11 Enliven, 13 Bury, 15 Escudo, 17 Dania, 20 Reef, 22 Blanket, 24 Flair, 25 Linch, 27 Isolate, 28 Sadness, 29 Treps, DOWN: 1 Private, 2 Years, 3 Necktie, 4 Geyser, 5 Extol, 6 Shrivels, 7 Down, 8 Nude, 14 Core, 16 Charmed, 18 Adorned, 19 Airless, 21 Ethics, 22 Bolt, 23 Kruze, 25 Agape.

"Let Us Care For Our Little Ones..."

Gift-giving on Hanukkah is a Jewish tradition. The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund is a Hanukkah tradition, for Israeli children in government institutions and foster homes. To these youngsters, the essence of the kindling spirit of Hanukkah depends on your generosity. For 36 years, you've shown them you care. This year, the Toy Fund is in dire need of contributions. Please, give generously.

Contributions may be brought to any office of The Jerusalem Post: JERUSALEM: The Jerusalem Post Building, Romema Industrial Zone; TEL AVIV: 11 Gershon St.; U.S.A.: 16 Nordant St., Hader Hacarmel. Or send by mail directly to The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.



THE JERUSALEM POST

Handwritten signature or mark.

UK Jews increase donations, but in \$ terms Israel gets less

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The sharp devaluation of the pound sterling against the U.S. dollar has for the past two years eroded the level of British Jewry's contributions to Israel and has created the impression of a fall-off in Anglo-Jewish involvement with fundraising for this country.



Michael Levy (Ackerman)

Michael Levy, national campaign chairman of the Joint Israel Appeal, who is in Israel this week as head of the United Israel Appeal-Keren Hayesod's 1984 International President's Mission, rejects any suggestion that British Jews are giving less than they did in the past.

The problem, said Levy in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, is that Israel's calculations are in U.S. dollars. The fall over a two-year period of sterling from \$2.40 to its 'low' of \$1.18, cannot reflect 'substantial increases' in JIA campaign totals.

To illustrate his point, Levy noted that even a 30 per cent face value increase during the currency slump would be recorded as a decrease when converted to dollars. For instance, £15 million at the \$2.40 rate of exchange would have amounted to

\$36m.; whereas £20m. at the \$1.18 rate would come to only 23.6 million.

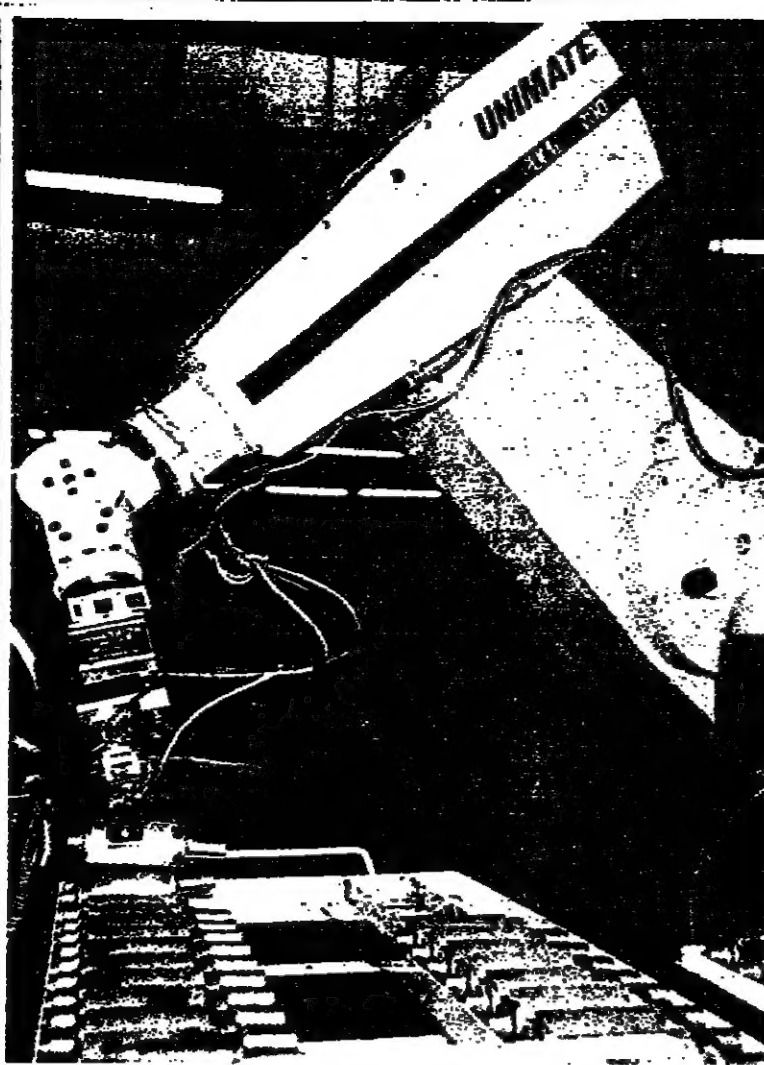
"We can't change British currency," said Levy. "This is the currency in which we earn and this is the currency in which we give." Under the circumstances, Levy noted, it is very difficult for JIA to keep pace with a dollar accounting system. Last year's JIA campaign concluded with £15 million. The target for the current campaign is £18.5 million.

Levy bridled when asked whether currency problems notwithstanding, he could honestly say, that on a per capita basis, British Jewry is doing its bit for Israel. There are some 75,000 Jewish households in England, he replied. In a large proportion of these households, people are earning a living just in terms of meeting their bills. There is a misconception in this country, he said, that every Jew living outside Israel is wealthy and a potential donor.

Insofar as British Jewry is concerned, he emphasized, interest and involvement cannot be measured in coinage. Education programmes about Israel have a large following; people subscribe to Israeli newspapers "and they want to be constantly involved with what is happening in this country."

As an example, Levy cited the success of the British Project Renewal development in Ashkelon, with its close people-to-people links. Many of the British volunteers who come to work in Ashkelon do not have the financial means to make a large contribution, but what they give of themselves can often account for more than money could buy.

In fact, the Ashkelon project represents an interesting reverse procedure. While it is very common in major Jewish fund-raising organizations for non-Zionists to initially acquire cheque-book involvement with Zionism, then to progress from peripheral identification to leadership and eventually even to come on aliyah, Ashkelon inspires involvement in the opposite direction.



The Iscar Blades factory in Nahariya has installed a \$100,000 American Puma 760 robot to serve six metal working machines on its production line, for jet engine blades. The firm expects the robot to replace four workers, raise output by 30 per cent and reduce rejects by 50 per cent.

(Baltinester)

Filling the economic information gap

By PINHAS TANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

The Israel Economic and Business Review, 1984-85 is a new and comprehensive guide to the Israeli economy scheduled to appear early next year.

Published as a joint venture by *The Jerusalem Post* and the *Israel Economist*, the handbook is aimed at providing a succinct overview of developments in the macro-economy and the different sectors of business, government and quasi-governmental organisations during the past year.

"We feel that there is no English-language source of analysis and clearly presented data available to executives and decision-makers on the subject of the Israeli economy."

All too many people rely on partial and dated information, gleaned haphazardly from a variety of sources," said Pinhas Levinson, managing editor of the *Monthly Israel Economist*.

Among the subjects that will be examined in depth are the development of the Israeli military-industrial complex, the economics of the West Bank and the effects of indexation on inflation. Academic writers, journalists and other experts will contribute to the yearbook, giving it a varied and interdisciplinary focus.

Further novel features to be included are indices, bibliographies and forecasts of emerging trends, which researchers and businessmen alike will find invaluable.

Haifa wants aid with its jobless

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - Mayor Arye Gurel appealed to the government again yesterday for urgent aid to ease the high unemployment rate in the Haifa metropolitan area.

In a letter to ministers, Gurel demanded that the issue be brought before the ministerial Economic Committee.

The mayor, who sent copies of his letter to the Ministers of Finance, Industry, Labour and Economics, called for priority treatment to tackle the special problems in the district. He also demanded help to establish and expand factories.

Gurel stressed that as the country's largest industrial city, Haifa is being hardest hit by the deteriorating economic situation.

This month there were 4,420 registered jobless, a rise of seven per cent over the previous month, while requests for workers dropped by 15 per cent, to only 895.

A similar request for special aid by the municipal executive last month has so far failed to produce any results.

COOPERATION. - British Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Paul Channon had discussions yesterday in Abu Dhabi covering cooperation between his country and the United Arab Emirates.

Was the index high or low?

The results of yesterday's trading, poor and boring as they were, paled into insignificance in the face of the intriguing price index announced after trading had already ended.

On the face of things, the highest index ever recorded for a single month, at 24.3 per cent, leaves no room for discussion: Things must be terrible. Yet, life is not that simple and the statistic is certainly complicated.

The fact that the 24.3 per cent rise for October was the highest ever is probably irrelevant. What is far more important, at least to the stock market and probably to the economy as a whole, is that it was much lower than most research had predicted - below the bottom of the projected range, in fact.

What happened? There are numerous possibilities, including that the real figure was represented, that the projections were all wrong, and that the recession is beginning to cause at least some prices to steady or even fall.

However, the most likely analysis at this stage is that the old bugbear of the statisticians, the three-monthly adjustment of apartment prices into the general price index, caused the problems. In the old days, this figure used to cause the final announcement to exceed the predictions. In the circumstances of late 1984, the opposite has become the case, and the influence of apartment prices is to moderate rather than aggravate the rise.

What the markets will make of all this remains to be seen next week. Meanwhile, the share market wound up a discouraging week with another

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By PINHAS LANDAU

day of eroding prices which, in some sectors, became sharp falls. Declines led advances by almost 2 to 1, and industrials, investment companies and oils were particularly weak, as they had been most of the week.

For the five trading days ended yesterday, it was only the 1 per cent gain in the "arrangement" banks that prevented a worse result than the 1.5 per cent fall in the General Share Index. The non-bank index, in fact, dropped by over 7 per cent, with most of the "free" share sectors showing significant declines. Investment companies led the pack with a weekly fall of some 13 per cent.

Given the almost 2 per cent devaluation over the week, even the one per cent rise eked out by the dollar-linked bank shares is unsatisfactory.

Bank of Israel exchange rates

November 15, 1984	IS	Australian dollar	468.44
U.S. dollar	545.84	South African rand	309.57
British sterling	689.48	Belgian franc (10)	91.228
German mark	184.16	Austrian schilling (10)	262.01
French franc	59.989	Italian lire (1000)	296.25
Dutch guilder	163.30	Japanese yen (100)	274.72
Swiss franc	223.55	Krish pond	571.63
Swedish krona	64.077	Spanish peseta (100)	338.32
Norwegian krone	63.238	Jordanian dinar	1348.2
Danish krone	50.989	Lebanese lira	72.340
Finnish mark	88.017	Egyptian pound	425.76
Canadian dollar	414.35		

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices	Value	% change
General Share Index	528.46	-0.65%
Non-bank index	543.04	+0.06%
Arrangement shares	423.78	-2.60%
Industrial		
Bond index		

Turnovers	Value	% change
Shares	181074.6m.	
Bonds	151545.6m.	
Totals	332620.2m.	
Advances	119	
Declines	215	
of which 5% +	28	
of which 5% -	4	
"Buyers only"	4	
"Sellers only"	13	

Bond market trends	Value	% change
4% fully-linked	Rises to 0.5%-3%	
3% fully-linked	Rises to 2.5%	
80% linked	Rises to 3.5%	
90% linked	Rises to 2%	
Double-option	Falls to 3%	
Dollar-linked	Falls to 3%	

Most Active Shares	Value	% change
Leumi	8840	15162.9m. -30
Hapoalim	13835	15133.7m. n.c.
IDB	20410	1878.7m. +110

Sharpest Moves	Value	% change
Baruch op.	91	+25 +37.9%
Tip-Top op.	49	-11 -18.3%
Vardion op.	205	+30 +17.1%

Ministry of Industry and Trade Obligation to Display Prices in Shekels

The Price Controller draws the attention of the public to the law requiring the display of prices in shekels, in clearly legible form, and to the punishment for failure to display prices.

1. Paragraph 21(a) of the Product and Service Controls Law, 1957, stipulates that retailers must display at all times and in a clearly noticeable place, prices of all controlled products offered, displayed or held in stock, for sale; as well as all its controlled items on display, whether in a sales window or elsewhere, in such manner as to provide reasonable assumption that the retailers are selling or proposing to sell the said item or other basically similar items, or for which he is inviting purchase... Prices must be displayed in clearly legible digits, in shekels.

2. Paragraph 3(a) of Emergency Regulations (Stability of Product and Service Prices) 1984, stipulates that prices for products or payment for services rendered, must be indicated or displayed in shekels only.

This regulation relates, among others, to price lists, advertisements and notices in the media.

3. Punishment of violations of paragraph 21(a) of the Product and Service Controls Law, is up to one year's imprisonment or a fine of up to IS 800,000.

Punishment for violations of paragraph 3(a) of the Emergency Regulations (Stability of Product and Service Prices) Law is up to 3 years' imprisonment and a fine of up to IS 2 million.

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HOLLAND GULDEN 1 162.1915 164.2152 160.7500 166.4700

SWITZERLAND FRANC 1 222.0208 224.8012 220.0600 227.8900

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NORWAY KRONA 1 62.8581 63.6424 61.4900 64.3200

DENMARK KRONA 1 50.6787 51.3111 49.5700 52.0000

FINLAND MARK 1 87.4299 88.5148 85.5200 89.7300

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Maof's Swaziland line taken over by S. Africans

TEL AVIV (Itim). - Gateway International, a South African company, yesterday successfully applied to District Court here for permission to operate the Tel Aviv-Swaziland-Tel Aviv line inaugurated last summer by Maof.

Gateway's counsel asked the court to order Maof's temporary receiver, Prof. Yosef Gross, to facilitate the South African company's operation of the line. The South African firm was a partner with the

now bankrupt Maof in the Swaziland venture. In September, Maof signed an agreement with Gateway ceding to it all rights to the Swaziland route, since Maof could no longer operate them.

Gross, who was present in the court, heard the judge order that Gateway be permitted to operate flights on the line as it saw fit.

It is likely that Arkia will charter a Boeing 707 and fly the route for Gateway.

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Back on track

THE RESUMPTION of the Israel-Lebanon military talks at Nakoura yesterday is a tribute to Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's adeptness at crisis management through a fine combination of firmness and flexibility.

The talks, begun last Thursday, were suspended at the insistence of Beirut's minister for southern Lebanon, Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri, immediately after the unexpected — though long sought — detention of four Amal functionaries in Sidon the same day. There was little doubt from the start that the four, headed by Amal's southern chief Mohammed Fakih, would be freed soon enough to make it possible for the Lebanese to knuckle down again to a discussion of the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon.

Initially it was Mr. Rabin's hope that the four could be released in exchange for Amal's consent to a cease fire in the south for the duration of the talks. This proposal, however, was rejected.

Another defence minister might have been tempted to use the opportunity to demonstrate only his toughness. Mr. Rabin, wisely, chose not to stand on ceremony: he announced the freeing of Fakih's three aides on Wednesday, after they had been duly interrogated, on the understanding that this would bring the Lebanese back to the negotiating table. Fakih himself, it was intimated, would be let go after the talks resumed — and his own interrogation was concluded.

Mr. Rabin took this action in full knowledge that the Shi'ite terrorists would keep harassing Israeli troops so long as they remained in Lebanon. But he also made it clear that the IDF would protect the troops, so long as they were there, and he turned down a demand by Premier Rashid Karamah that Israel refrain from making any more arrests among suspected terrorists.

So the talks are now resumed — yet the news from Nakoura yesterday was not particularly encouraging. The two sides appear to be about as wide apart as they were last week. If the stalemate continues for very long, Israel may have no choice but to evacuate the south on its own terms, without bothering about agreement with the Lebanese.

Statistics with a smile

THE LONG-FEARED October price index has turned out to be somewhat less fearful than expected: instead of 28 per cent, price inflation last month was "only" 24.3 per cent.

This news will be greeted with relief. Much of the relief is home-made, since the Treasury has recently made it a practice to paint its forecast so black that any lighter shade revealed by subsequent events may look like a silver lining. The gloomy predictions are not only fed to the media; they are supplied to the government itself, as evident from the fact Prime Minister Shimon Peres himself only two days ago foresaw an October price rise of 28 per cent.

Still, the news must be counted good. For the fact that October's inflation was not quite as high as was universally expected, may give the package deal a marginally better chance of success.

The implication may well be that inflation in November, which will mostly be the result of the "spillover effect" — the difference between the average price level in October and that of the first week of the package deal — may be less than the 20-22 per cent that have already been forecast.

A lower inflation rate in November will mitigate the cost pushes that jeopardize the package deal, and make it easier to hold it together so as to achieve the slow-down of inflation which is the objective of the entire deal.

There is another cause for a feeling of relief, too: in recent weeks it has been accepted as incontrovertible fact that manufacturers and sellers have boosted their prices to unreasonable levels in an attempt to hedge against a future price freeze. The data published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics do not corroborate that: the index of wholesale prices of manufacturing industry, it turns out, has risen somewhat more slowly than the consumer price index.

Unless the next index, to be published a month from now, proves that price boosts by manufacturers during the first week of November have been as outrageous as they have been depicted in the media, it may turn out that the sharp erosion of real wages in the last few months, with its resultant contraction of aggregate demand, has already put a damper on industrialists' ability to raise prices in excess of the rise in their costs.

Although the cost-of-living mechanism with its time lag of two months makes sure that nominal wages will rise — albeit at a rate reduced to two-thirds of the normal compensation — real wages will still remain below the level in September, when the wholesale price index also lagged behind the consumer price index. Manufacturers may have been quicker than government officials to sense that real demand is shrinking, and that they may therefore have hesitated to take the lead in price boosting.

The government has embarked on a controversial, not clearly defined, and in many respects inconsistent policy package. It carries with it great risks and no more than a modest chance of getting the economy back to a relatively tolerable state. But it is the only policy in town, and yesterday's index gives it a boost.

POSTSCRIPTS

PS IN SOUTH BEND, Indiana, a 77-year-old widow is \$10,000 poorer after sending draperies to the cleaners with the money pinned to the material.

Carabelle Hoekstra said the hidden money "was there about five years, and I just forgot it." She took the draperies to a cleaners August 27. Pinned to them was an envelope containing the cash and a certificate of deposit, she told police. She discovered the money was missing after the draperies were cleaned and returned along with the certificate of deposit and an empty envelope, detectives said.

Mrs. Hoekstra said she pinned the money to the curtains "just in case I needed it, for an emergency. It was my mistake. I'm ashamed of myself. And I know I made a mistake."

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PS ENTEBBE Airport, the capital's international airfield, has been renamed after President Milton Apollo Obote.

Entebbe Airport is 34 kilometres south of Kampala. It is adjacent to the old Entebbe field, built by an Israeli Construction company and the scene of the Israeli commando raid on July 4, 1976, to free more than 100 hostages held by Palestinian and West German hijackers of an Air France jetliner.

Postscripts welcomes items from readers, especially anecdotes concerning the lighter side of life in Israel. Contributions must be accompanied by the writer's name, address, and identity-card number, and sent to: Postscripts, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000.

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Where have all the demons gone?

By ERWIN FRENKEL

NO ONE SEEMS to have noticed, but the demons have disappeared. That array of evil forces conspiring to devour us at every corner is gone.

The Ashkenazim, the kibbutzim, the Labour Movement, the Germans, the so-called PLO, the poisonous press, the seculars, the leftists, the self-hating Jews, the Syrians, the Arabs, even the Americans in their moments of lapse — all have been deprived of their demonic clutch.

For seven years these dark forces clouded the firmament of public discourse in this country. Their machinations, articulated from on high, created an atmosphere of fear, hate, conflict, indignation, resentment. Israel was under constant assault, by the enemy without and within. And there was no clear distinction between them.

Nor was there any clear distinction between Israel and the Jewish people, past, present or future. All was a single dimension of righteousness, beset by demonic threat.

Even Mr. Peres's most ardent admirers would not claim that in a few short weeks he has despatched all these demons. His government's legs still wobble. Where then have the demons gone?

IN MODERN HISTORY there are not many examples of a regime that employs the rhetoric of demonology being replaced by democratic means.

Such regimes, usually the creation of a single overpowering demagogue, typically crumble only (and inevitably) of disasters of their own making.

Israel has, at least tentatively, accomplished the atypical. The dangerous genie of demonology has been put back in the bottle by democratic change. The threats to the country from without, and the cracks within, have been demystified. It is possible once again to see them and talk about them and decide upon them in rational, not irrational, ways. They are now difficulties, not devils.

Devils and demons can only be exorcised or expelled or extirpated. They require unconditional warfare. Problems and difficulties and challenges can be managed, controlled, overcome.

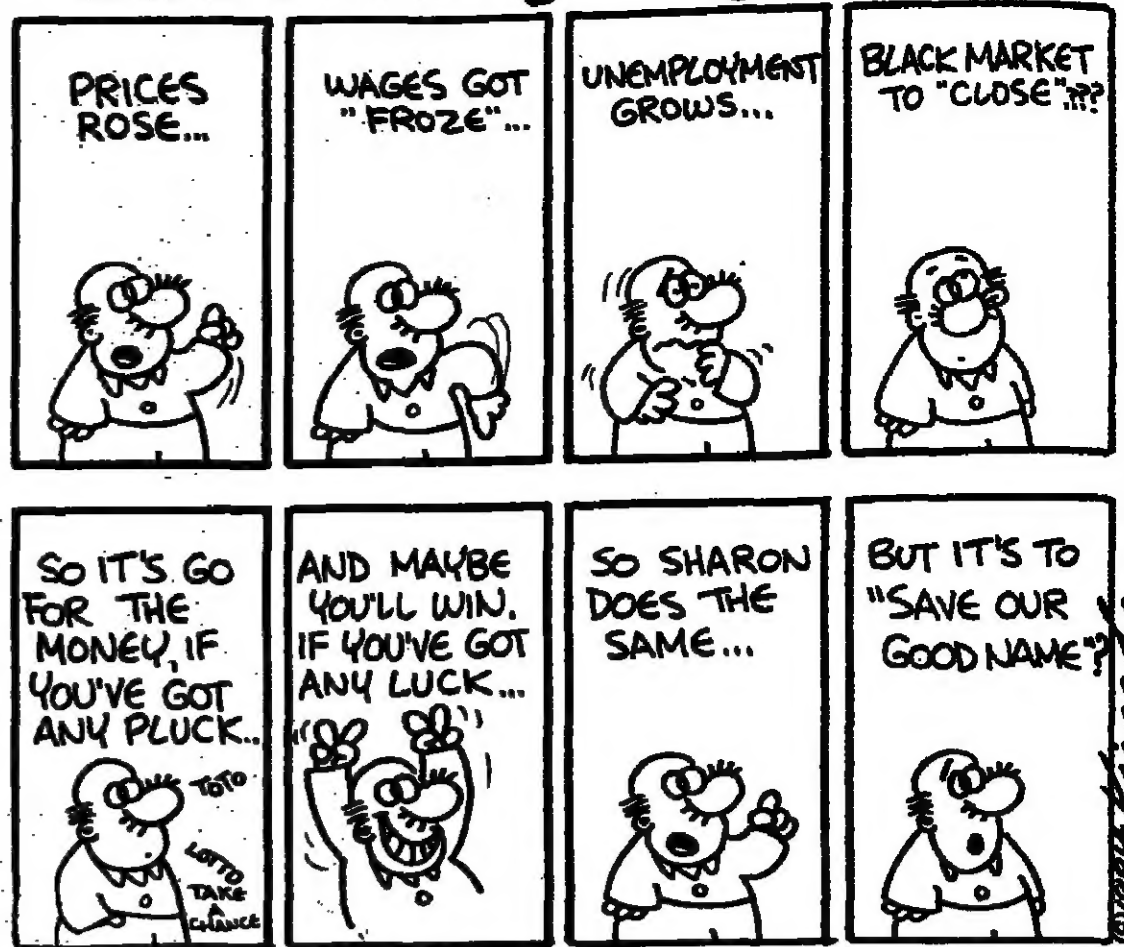
These are not difference of language. They are differences of mind.

The demagogic mind creates demons. They are fictive constructs, fabricated from a kernel of truth. Like all fictions, they propel the imagination and engage the emotions. For the demagogue, they have a dual purpose: they create emotive targets for attack and thereby rally the emotions of followers around the attacker. In this way the demagogue provides an exhilarating sense of identity for the horde he would gather around him to gain and manipulate power. For beyond those who would follow him stand the betrayers, or conspirators or perversers who would not.

As a result, battle with demons from without is always the mirror image of battle with demons within. They exist in tandem.

Little wonder that a nation caught in this malevolent web can usually not wrench itself free. Bewitched by

The Friday Dry Bones



the imagery of evil and cowed by the energies of the horde, it ceases to see the real world.

IF ISRAEL has now extricated itself from this intoxication, it still remains prone to relapse. For practitioners of the demagogic art, nourished by the still bubbling sediment of seven years, remain active in the wings. They are ready to pounce if the government, the interior of the near disaster of those years, buckles under the weight of its troubles.

One such, the most potent, is now in New York playing his skill according to formula. He is suing not a magazine, but the demon of anti-Semitism. And he is waging not a private battle, but the war of the Jewish people against the monstrous

menace. All who don't see that are betrayers.

Some of Mr. Sharon's detractors at home may perhaps silently hope that he will lose his suit. But they do not understand the logic of demagoguery. They think in the ordinary categories of ordinary people where defeat equals embarrassment or shame.

The demagogue knows better. He is beyond shame. He knows it is the contest, not the verdict that counts. The contest creates the public drama of heroic battle with the enemies of the people. Thus whether the court in New York finds for or against him, Mr. Sharon will either way have dramatized the immensity of the diabolical forces he had the singular courage to challenge. And his followers will cheer.

Another such practitioner, at home, makes the Arabs, all Arabs, the demonic force with which he alone does battle.

And still another, less wanton and less skilled, would again raise the spectre of Ashkenazi domination, when opportunity arrives.

Off centre stage, these masters of the demagogic grammar, prepare for their future.

Thus, whatever failures of nerve, wit or coherence blunt the thrust of Israel's new government trying to repair the damage done by the demagogic era that has passed, the nation must be grateful for the second chance that government represents.

For another such round of demonology could put us beyond repair.

READERS' LETTERS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I am a great admirer of Professor Eliezer Berkovits and his writings. Nonetheless, I find myself compelled to take issue with his opinion, as reported in Aryeh Rubinstein's article "Pluralism: two Orthodox views" (October 5) on the subject of non-Orthodox conversions.

In that interview, Rabbi Berkovits repeats a position previously articulated in his book *Not in Heaven*, challenging the outright rejection by Orthodox authorities of conversions performed by Reform and Conservative rabbis. Rubinstein writes: "Initially, then, a court of talmudic scholars is required, but *b'davad* even three ignorant laymen form the court." So Berkovits rejects the argument of Orthodox extremists that conversion by a Conservative or Reform court is *ipso facto* invalid, even if all halachic requirements are met, because the Conservative or Reform rabbi does not believe in *Revelation at Sinai*.

With all due respect, I find the argument erroneous on two accounts. First, Maimonides clearly rules that a conversion performed by a court of laymen is only *presumed* to be valid "until the sincerity of the convert is clarified." Thus, should it become clear that, already at the time of conversion, the supposed convert rejected fundamental tenets of Judaism, then his act of conversion may rightfully be deemed invalid. Should we analogize the case of a non-Orthodox conversion to that of a lay court — as Professor Berkovits does — then here too the Reform and Conservative conversion would be correctly suspect until the sincerity of the convert and his commitment to Torah and *mitzvot* is clarified. If the beliefs of the convert are similar to (or less than) those of the Reform or Conservative rabbis who are supervising the conversion — and one can properly assume this to

THE VALIDITY OF CONVERSIONS

be the case — then, under traditional Halacha, the conversion would indeed be flawed.

Even more critical, however, is that the two cases, i.e. a conversion by a lay court and one by Reform or Conservative rabbis, are not truly analogous. In the former case, that of a lay court, the flaw is not in their legal capacity under Jewish law to serve as judges. It is understood that these laymen of which the Halacha speaks accept the pivotal article of faith in a direct Divine Revelation, manifest at Israel's birth as a faith people at the foot of Sinai and continuing its vital expression throughout its civilizational experience by means of both the Written and Oral Law. In addition, they fully recognize and acknowledge the derivative and concomitant doctrine of the binding power of the Halacha upon all of the Jewish people, for all human time, both as a source and a process for a Jewish living. The concern with a lay conversion lies in the judges' lack of knowledge as to the fine detail of Jewish law and, consequently, in their proper application of this law. If, however, upon investigation, we discover that the conversion ceremony had in fact followed the dictates of the law, then the conversion is recognized valid.

Reform Judaism and much of the Conservative movement, on the other hand, have officially repudiated the above-stated and other cardinal *ma'aminim* as well as many basic laws and commandments. As a result, their rabbis lack, under traditional Jewish law, the legal capacity to serve as judges on a conversion *bedin*. It would be ironic if one who himself does not feel obliged to the binding nature of *mitzvot*, would serve as a judge in a ceremony whose essential nature is the acceptance of *mitzvot* (*Kabbalat mitzvot*). Consequently, even if the Reform or Conservative rabbis are knowledgeable, and the ceremony in all other respects was in accordance with Jewish law, the lack of a legally qualified *bedin*, comprised of legally qualified judges, in and of itself would halachically invalidate the conversion. It is similar to one who affirms allegiance to the United States for purposes of citizenship in front of a Canadian judge; the Canadian judge simply lacks the legal capacity to confer U.S. citizenship upon a person even if, in all other respects, the act is ceremoniously correct.

I suspect that not all who question Professor Berkovits' "bold" thinking should be so glibly labelled as Rubinstein does — "extremist."

ARAB DOV L. FRIMER
 Jerusalem.
 Aryeh Rubinstein comments:
 In his last paragraph, Rabbi Frimer lumps together two sentences from different contexts in order to have a basis for taking a poke at me. Something like a photomontage that puts the subject in a ridiculous or embarrassing position.

Sentence 1: "Berkovits rejects the argument of Orthodox extremists that conversion by a Conservative or Reform court is *ipso facto* invalid, even if all halachic requirements are met..."

Sentence 2 (five columns later): "So far the Zionist rabbis... have not chosen to grapple with Berkovits' bold halachic thinking."

Perhaps I should not have used the term "extremist," though it appears that Frimer even disagrees with Rabbi Nachum Rabinovitch, who conceded, in the same article, that the Israel rabbinate should examine the proof submitted by an applicant who underwent a non-Orthodox conversion and not reject it out of hand.

I faulted the Zionist rabbis, not for rejecting Berkovits' general approach to religious pluralism, but for ignoring it.

TORA OVER ZIONISM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — As a student in an anti-Zionist yeshiva I was disturbed to read Richard Hirsch's letter (November 7). He is troubled by the fact that the Jewish Agency allocates funds for our type of yeshiva, where students do not serve in the Israel Defence Forces.

Hirsch should understand that the brilliant success of the IDF in past wars was due to a single most important factor: the soldiers believed in the cause they were defending. Since we do not believe in Zionism (the need for Jewish statehood before the arrival of the Messiah), we do not have that IDF motivation.

Besides, we are too busy living lives of tradition to take time out to serve as cannon fodder in the adventurist war dreams of the Menachem Begin and Ariel Sharons. That honour we leave for Richard Hirsch and his fellow Zionists.

After having giving up a prosperous herring and smoked fish business in Johannesburg, I came to Bnei Brak to live a life of Torah and *mitzvot*. For people like myself, Zionism is not compatible with these two requisites of Jewish living.
 JOSEPH BLUMSTEIN
 Bnei Brak.

FLOWERS AND WEAPONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I quite agree with Anita Stern's comments on the very boring Holon Flower Show.

She should also have mentioned the three missiles which were part of the display. They were the last thing I wanted to see amongst the flowers.
 NINA ZANGER
 Jerusalem.

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